

A HISTORY . . .  
OF . . . . .  
KIDWELLY . . .  
BY THE REV. .  
D. DAVEN JONES  
B.A., VICAR . . .

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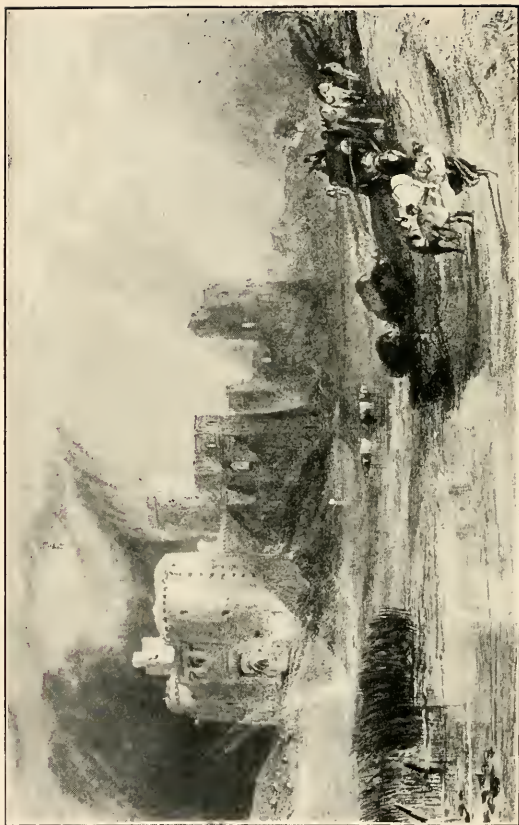
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. HISTORY  
. . . . OF  
KIDWELLY







KIDWELLY CASTLE.

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*

*Drawn by J. M. W. Turner, R.A.*

A

# *History of Kidwelly*<sup>c</sup>

BY THE

REV. D. DAVEN JONES, B.A.

*Vicar of Kidwelly.*

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

‘Nor rough, nor barren, are the winding ways  
Of hoar antiquity, but strewn with flowers.’

*Thomas Warton (1687—1745).*

CARMARTHEN:

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TO JOHN

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## PREFACE.



KIDWELLY deserves a written history of its own.

A Tragedy, in five acts, entitled, 'Gwenllian, or The Siege of Kidwelly,' by E. Andrews, published in 1841; a few facts embodied in an 'Appeal' on behalf of the restoration of the parish church, by Hugh Williams, published in 1847; a Paper prepared by George T. Clark for the Cambrian Archæological Association in 1850, entitled, 'A Description and History of Kidwelly Castle,' published in '*Archæologia Cambrensis*,' and twice reprinted in pamphlet form; and some spasmodic and disjointed notices, mostly unauthentic, published in local newspapers, constitute the literature which appears to have been hitherto printed relative to the history of the ancient town and commote of Kidwelly, whose stirring annals extend back to the dim vista of the ages.

The historical interest that clusters round the subject, and the perfunctory treatment it has hitherto received, must be my apology for presuming to present the facts which appear in the following pages, trusting, at the same time, that they may be of interest to my readers, and that my effort, however imperfect, may serve as a chronicle of achievements and events which should not be consigned to oblivion.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to Archdeacon W. L. Bevan for several valuable suggestions which he has kindly given me.

D. DAVEN JONES.

The Vicarage, Kidwelly,  
December 13, 1907.



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\* By permission of the proprietors of 'Archaeologia Cambrensis.'

#### ERRATA.

Page 23, third line from foot—For *Maude* read *Blanche*.

Page 25, tenth line—For *Carberry* read *Carbery*.

Page 38, seventeenth line—For *The* read *An*.

#### ADDENDUM.

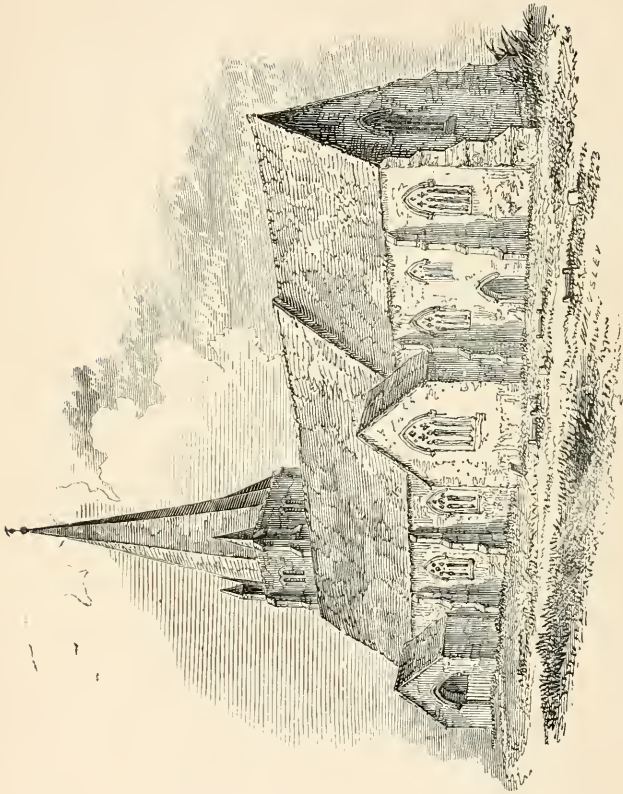
Page 44, eleventh line, after 'near by,' read 'similar to that which still remains on Colman Farm.'

#### ABBREVIATION.

*P.R.O.*—Public Record Office.







KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH From an old engraving)

# KIDWELLY.

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## ITS TOPOGRAPHICAL SITUATION.




KIDWELLY is a town, a municipal borough, and a parish in the hundred and lordship of Kidwelly, and county of Carmarthen. The town itself is situate on the northern and southern banks of the lower course of *Gwendraeth Fach* (Lesser Gwendraeth) river, and nine miles to the south of Carmarthen. Leland, in his Itinerary, gives it this quaint description—‘ Ther is a litle Toune, now but newly made, between Vendraith Vaure and Guendraeth Vehan rivers, but hard upon Vendraith Vehan. Vendraith Vaur is half a mile of. Ther is betwixt new Kidwelly and the old, but a Bridge over Litle Wendraith. The old Toun is pretily waulid, and hath hard by the waul, a Castel; the old Toun is near al desolated, but the Castel is meatly wel kept up. It longgid to the Duke of Lancastre. . . . The Castel is very fair, and double waulid. I saw there iii gates, and over one of them was the Ruine of a Fair Toune Haul, and under, a Prison. A peace of the new Toun was lateli burnid. The new Toune is three times as bigge as the old.’

This description has reference to the condition of the town at about the middle of the 16th century, when Leland wrote, and although it is a sad picture of decadence, it nevertheless proves that Kidwelly had been a place of considerable size and importance at an earlier period.

The little town alluded to was that which grew up under the shadow and protection of the Norman Castle, and was on the left bank of Gwendraeth Fach river. This seems to have been originally built for the accommodation of foreign settlers, consisting of French, English, and Flemings, introduced in consequence of the Norman occupation of the district (see Appendix A). On the other hand, the old town represented as having fallen into decay, was on the right bank of the river, and was probably the capital of the commote of Kidwelly, which, together with the commotes of Gwyr (Gower) and Carnwyllion, formed, at one time, what was known to the Kymry as *Cantref Eginog*, a constituent part of the third division of the ancient kingdom or principality of Dynevor, or Deheubarth (South Wales).\*

\* 'Description of Cambria,' by Sir John Price, xix.

## THE ETYMOLOGY OF THE NAME.

ENNIUS, a monk of Bangor in North Wales, who is supposed to have written his '*Eulogium Britanniae*' in the 9th century, cites the name as *Cetgueli*.\* This form of the name appears also in '*Liber Landavensis*' (p. 552), a compilation in the main of the former part of the 12th century. In ancient documents, such as the Patent Rolls, Charter Rolls, Close Rolls, and Inquisitions Post Mortem, the name is variously written, the variations being less instructive than grotesque. The distortions are, indeed, in some instances almost unrecognisable. These are examples—Kedewelli, Cadewely, Kadewely, Keddewelly, Kaddwelye, Kedwelli, Kydewelly, Keldwelby, Kedewelby, Kedewalli, Kydewely, Kedewely, Kedewelle, Kidewell.

Leland's etymology of Kidwelly may reasonably be rebelled against as being atrocious when he says, as he does in his Itinerary, that 'this place was called Cathwelli, that is Cattilectus, because Cattas once used there to make his bed in an oak.'

In 'The Description of Pembrokeshire,' by George Owen, of Henllys, edited by Dr. Henry Owen, the editor states (p. 200) that Kidwelly was in Welsh called *Cedweli*, or *Cadweli*, and that the name is a *tribal* one ordinarily formed from the personal name *Cadwal*. This authority maintains that the town of Kidwelly borrowed its name from the castle, in whose surroundings it sprang up and that the castle took its name from the district in

\* Nennius and Gildas—San Marte's Ed., p. 36.

which it was erected. Similar instances are given in which old Welsh district-names became attached to a town in the vicinity, such as *Arwystli*, which is derived from *Arwystl* ; *Builth* from *Buellt*, or *Buallt* ; *Cardigan* from *Ceredigion* ; *Pembroke* from *Penbrog* ; *Brecknock* from *Brycheiniog* ; *Maesyfed* from *Maeshyfaidd* ; and *Laugharne* from *Talacharn*. The objections to this theory are (1) that *Cadwal* is left unidentified, and seems to be unknown to history ; (2) that the last syllable in the word *Cydweli* is unaccounted for.

The popular theory as to the etymology of the name Kidwelly is based on the import of the modern Welsh form *Cydweli*, which is represented to be a compound word consisting of the prefix *cyd* (con) *wy*=*gwy* (water), and *li*=*lî* (a stream). The meaning of the name according to this theory would therefore be, *the confluence of streams*. And this derivation is supported by the physical features of the locality, as the larger portion of the town, which is called 'the new town,' lies between the greater and lesser Gwendraeth rivers, which mingle their waters in an estuary about a mile from the town.

Plausible though this theory may be, it does not sufficiently account for the earliest form of the name *Cetgueli*, as given by Nennius.

It will have been observed that the name of both the local rivers is *Gwendraeth* (White-beach). This does not sound like a river name : it seems to refer to the *traeth*, or sandy level, across which the united rivers find their way to the sea, and which probably has been transferred from the plain to the rivers themselves, whose union forms the characteristic feature of the locality. If this

be so, it is reasonable to suppose that the rivers had, at an early period, a name of their own, and this name possibly supplies an explanation of the two syllables *welly*, for the original form, as written by Nennius, *Cetgueli*, would be *gueli*, and this approximates closely to the well-known *Gwili*, of Abergwili. The first syllable *cet*, or as now *kid*, may be a form of *cyd*, signifying *junction*, in which case Kidwelly would refer to that which is the special feature of the neighbourhood—the *junction of the Gwelis*.

In his explanatory notes on the 'Siege of Kidwelly,' by E. Andrews, the author states (p. 54) that the *Gwendraeth* originally bore the name of *Gwely*. The early inhabitants of these parts seem to have been animated by a conservative spirit in naming the rivers, for the names afford little variation, and in some instances no variation at all, as, for instance, *Teify*, *Towy*, *Tawy*, and *Taf*. So, again, *Cleddau* is, as in the case of the Kidwelly rivers, shared by two streams, whose junction gave its Welsh name *Aberdaugleddau* to Milford.

It may, however, be objected that in the last-mentioned theory the 'g' has been dropped out of Nennius's *gueli*, such not being demanded by the rule of initial mutation, inasmuch as *cyd* does not affect the radical form; but the loss may have occurred from the practice of by-gone days. If therefore allowance be made for changes produced by time and usage, it is quite possible that the name *Kidwelly* means the *junction of the Gwelis* as appropriate to the *commote* in the first instance, and subsequently to its *capital*.



## ITS ANCIENT HISTORY.

THE remotest antiquity of Kidwelly is suggested by some place-names which have been handed down through the ages to the present time. Among these are *Y Maenllwyd Mawr* (the great hoary stone) and *Allt Cunedda* (the hill of Cunedda). These names are so distinctive of two different epochs in the annals of ancient Britain as to justify the assumption that Kidwelly played a prominent part in each of them.

*Y Maenllwyd Mawr* is the name by which is still generally known a large enclosure on an eminence about half a mile from the town on the old road leading eastward. Here there is what appears to be a Celtic barrow, or tumulus, intact, and of extraordinary size—135 yards long, 6 yards wide, and 4 or 5 feet high—which has remained scientifically unexplored to the present time. This may originally have been a place of Goidelic interment, in which case it is not improbable that it became also a Druidic oratory, for the tomb then not unfrequently became the shrine; but this double use of the position may also have been continued by the Brythons after they had embraced the Christian religion. Indeed, many of our Christian Churches have originated in this manner, and it is a most obvious transition from the tomb to the temple. The worship of the spirits of the dead at the one time would naturally grow into the worship of the Great Unknown in the other.\* It is

\* Fergusson's 'Rude Stone Monuments.'

probable that this transition took place here, for the very position became the site (as will be seen later on) of a Christian Church. The swampy condition of the lowlands at the remote period of the Celtic settlement in this island would naturally incline the settlers to select hillocks and mountainous districts for their abode. For this reason they are said to have assembled in the western parts of Britain, where the undulating nature of the country would appeal to them as most suited for their habitation and the rites of their religion. Relics of the Druidic worship and burial might therefore be expected to be found in elevated places, such as the position which *Y Maenllwyd Mawr* occupies. Druidism itself, in fact, was generally known as *Y Maen* (the stone).\* There remains however, as might have been expected in a site under cultivation, no trace of the hoary stone, probably a megalithic monument commonly called a *Cromlech*, after which the enclosure is named.

*Allt Cunedda* is the name given to the hill on the north-east of the town, which is supposed once to have been the site of a stronghold erected either by the chieftain himself, whose name it bears, or by his sons, of whom Meirion and Ceredig, the grandfather of St. David, the Patron Saint of Wales, are the most familiar. It may be observed that in the Ordnance Map of 1842 the position in question is marked 'Ancient Fortress,' and excavations rendered expedient by agricultural processes bear indubitable testimony to the probability of

\* Morgan's 'British Kymry,' p. 58.

the existence at one time of a somewhat extensive fortification in this place. Now *Cunedda*, or *Cuneddag*, a prince of Strathclyde, and his sons are said by Nennius to have come into Wales from a district on the southern side of the Frith of Forth,\* which the Picts eventually snatched from the Roman power, and which they made one of their most important settlements.† Nennius also states‡ that Cunedda and his sons arrived in Wales 146 years before the reign of Maelgwn, one of the most astute princes of Cunedda's descendants, who died of the yellow plague A.D. 547. Hence it would appear that their advent followed closely upon the evacuation of Britain by the Roman legions. Cunedda became the *Gwledig*, or over-king of the Kymry, an office which was a revival and perpetuation of the *Dux Britanniarum* during the Roman occupation, and he is said to have wielded this power as far as the *Severn Sea*, a view of the extension of which *Allt Cunedda* commands.

The general unrest among European nations in the 5th and 6th centuries, which occasioned the withdrawal of the Roman legions from Britain, seems to have disturbed the peace in the south-western part of the island, where the Goidels and Brythons—two branches of the Celtic race—had already settled among the non-Aryan aborigines. The Goidels were probably the first Celtic settlers, and they became in course of time inoculated with the Druidic religion, which had previously belonged

\* Rhys's 'Celtic Britain,' p. 118.

† Newell's 'Welsh Church,' p. 101.

‡ Nennius and Gildas,' p. 72.

to the pre-Celtic inhabitants, while the Brythons were driven hither at a later period, and seem neither to have been welcomed by the Goidels nor to have adopted their religious creed, as they are supposed to have remained *polytheists*, such as they were, when Julius Caesar (*'De Bello Gallico'*) first made their acquaintance. It would appear that the Brythonic intruders settled in this part in a strip of country which lay on the eastern bank of the river Towy extending southwards to the sea,\* and they are said by Nennius to have been countenanced by the northern conquerors, by whom the Goidels were driven out. It is also stated by Camden that this territory was for a long time possessed by the sons of Keianus, the Scot, and that they were expelled by Cunedda.†

At the time when this onslaught was made by Cunedda and his sons on the Goidels, the district was known as Gwyr (Gower) and *Y Tri Chwmmwd* (the Three Commotes), by which latter were meant Kidwelly, Carnwyllion, and Is-cennen.‡ This grouping formed the *Swydd Gydwel*, a misprint for *Gydweli*.§ At another period, however, Kidwelly, Carnwyllion, and Gower seem to have been the three commotes belonging to the cantref of Ystrad Tywy or Eginog.|| Urien, the son of Cynvarch, or *Urien Rheged* as he is otherwise called, is also associated by Welsh tradition with this, or a similar exploit, for it is asserted that King Arthur sent this prince

\* Rhys's 'Celtic Britain,' p. 254.

† Camden's '*Britannia*,' translated by Gough, p. 504.

‡ Iolo MSS., p. 392.

§ Myv. Arch. II., 623. || Powell's 'History of Cambria,' xix.

of the Round Table with ten thousand men to recover the above-mentioned Three Commotes which Gilmore Rechdyr, king of Ireland, had usurped in the time of Constantine the Blessed, the first British sovereign after the Roman evacuation, A.D. 406. Urien is credited with having conquered the Irish and put them to flight, and to have subsequently received the kingdom of the country which was called *Rheged*—supposed to be derived from *anrheg*, a gift. This comprised the district between the rivers Tawy and Towy, including Gower, Kidwelly, Carnwyllion, Iscennen, and Cantref Bychan, and is said to have been a free gift bestowed unanimously upon Urien by its ancient British inhabitants.\*

*Rheged* is represented in the Iolo MSS. (p. 457) to have been included in the kingdom of Glamorgan. Subsequent, however, to the time of Hywel Dda, during whose magnificent reign the ancient British subdivisions of Wales underwent a considerable modification, there arose incessant disputes between Morganwg (Glamorgan) and Deheubarth (South Wales), touching the limits of the rival dominions. The district known as Gower and the Three Commotes, including Kidwelly, constituted one of the debatable territories. Towards the latter part of the 10th century '*Liber Landavensis*' (p. 502) presents the district between the mouth of the Wye and the mouth of the Towy as comprising the kingdom of Morgan Hên, king of Glamorgan. The Principality of Iestyn ap Gwrgan, who succeeded to the throne of Glamorgan about the middle of the 11th

\* Iolo MSS., 457—467.

century, is stated in the Iolo MSS. (p. 391) to have embraced the district between Tawy and Towy. In either case Kidwelly would then be included in the kingdom or lordship of Glamorgan.

Down to the year 1133 the diocese of Llandaff seems to have been co-extensive with the kingdom of Morganwg, or with the Principality of Glamorgan, and therefore the district above mentioned would also be within the see of Llandaff. This fact is attested even as late as the year 1130 by the following Bull of Innocent II., addressed to the 'Inhabitants of Gower, Kidwelly, &c.'

'Innocent, Bishop, servant of the servants of God, to his sons, the clergy and people resident throughout the parishes of Gower, Kidwelly, Cantref-Bychan, Ystradyw, and Ergyng, health and apostolical benediction. As our predecessor of happy memory, Pope Honorius, has by his writings ordered you to obey our venerable brother Urban, Bishop of Llandaff, so also we command that you humbly render to him, as to your father and Bishop, obedience and reverence.


'Given at the Palatine the 25th day of Feb., 1130.'

The district in question became also a source of friction which eventually developed into litigation between the rival sees of Llandaff and St. Davids. The dispute, although repeatedly laid before the Pope, was not settled at Rome, nor until the death of Urban, bishop of Llandaff, which occurred when he was on a journey to Rome in the prosecution of the business in 1133. The contest was then given up by the bishop of Llandaff, and Bernard, bishop of St. Davids, retained possession of the district, which has ever since been incorporated in the see of St. Davids.

A local function (the consecration of an ancient cemetery), reference to which is made later on, induces the belief that the district in dispute had virtually exchanged hands as regards diocesan limits between 1096 and 1112.

Rhys ap Tewdwr, who succeeded his father Tewdwr the Great as Prince of South Wales in 1077, had already, for the purpose of civil government, detached the district from Glamorgan, and had it annexed to his own dominion, and this probably was one of the chief causes of the imbroglio that ensued between Glamorgan and Deheubarth, and which resulted in the Norman conquest of Glamorgan and the Norman invasions and occupation of Kidwelly.

#### INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN INFLUENCE.

Iestyn, lord of Glamorgan, was at enmity with Prince Rhys (an enmity probably arising out of this disputed territory) at the time when Eíneon, son of Cadivor, son of  Collwyn, lord of Dyfed (Pembrokeshire), who had been implicated in a rebellion against Rhys, the reigning Prince, fled to Glamorgan for refuge. This Eíneon had served as an officer in the English Army in foreign wars. In order to insinuate himself into the favour of Iestyn, he volunteered, under certain stipulations (among which was a promise of Iestyn's daughter in marriage, with the lordship of Miskin for her dowry), to make a personal application to the King of England (William Rufus), with whom he professed to be in favour,\* for military

\* Iolo MSS., p. 393.



assistance to Iestyn against Rhys ap Tewdwr. This negotiation resulted in the willing sympathy and active support of Robert Fitzhamon, a kinsman of William the Conqueror and Knight of the Privy Chamber to King William Rufus,\* and twelve other Norman knights. These levied in England a formidable army, consisting of twenty-four squires and three thousand men,† which, having joined that of Iestyn in the year 1090, marched together into the territories of the Prince of South Wales. Rhys ap Tewdwr, although then about 98 years of age, hastily raised an army and met the combined invaders near Brecon, where a sanguinary battle ensued with great slaughter on each side. The aged but still valiant prince was slain in the engagement, and history relates that with him disappeared the glory of the Principality of South Wales.‡ The object for which their aid had been requisitioned having been attained, the Norman knights, after being sufficiently indemnified by Iestyn, made preparations for their withdrawal to England. At this juncture, however, Eíneon, who had perceived that Iestyn was disinclined to fulfil his engagement to him, hurried to Robert Fitzhamon and his lieutenants, and having reported to them this breach of faith, invited them in his desire for revenge, to return and dispossess Iestyn of his lordship, advancing his unpopularity with his subjects as a plea.§ The mercenaries eagerly seized the opportunity of becoming combatants on their own account. Iestyn, with the demoralised remnant of his

\* Powell, xxxii.    † Iolo Mss., p. 378.

‡ Rhys's 'Celtic Britain,' p. 142.

§ Iolo MSS., pp. 377, 380.

army, was attacked on Mynydd Bychan, or Cardiff Heath,\* was hopelessly defeated, and had no alternative but to flee the country.

‘ What evils has the want of love produced,  
My country can declare ; the want of this—  
Oh ! sad the thought ! spoiled Iestyn of his all ;  
Fixed the Normans in Morganwg’s land ;  
Robb’d Cymry of their much lov’d soil ;  
Made fathers wilfully imbrue their hands  
Even in their children’s blood ! ’

*Siege of Kidwelly.*

Having gained an easy victory, the Normans now proceeded to divide the spoil. The royal lordship of Glamorgan was appropriated by Robert Fitzhamon, and the fertile parts were distributed among his knights, while the perfidious Eineon was left only the worthless soil and hilly districts for his trouble. Of the knights among whom Glamorgan was partitioned was William de Londres, whose family played a prominent part in the history of Kidwelly. His share was the Castle and Manor of Ogmere. Having secured this point of vantage, the Norman knights lost little time in pushing forward their arms to the Principality of South Wales, now enfeebled by the fall of Rhys ap Tewdwr ; for the conquest of Wales, unlike that of England, was effected by private enterprise.

#### NORMAN INVASIONS.

Hardly indeed had the Normans been settled in Glamorgan before they made a descent, in the year

\* Iolo MSS., p. 380.

1093, on Gwyr, Kidwelly, and Ystrad Towy, devastating all the country before them.\* Whether William de Londres, lord of Ogmore, took an active part in this particular expedition does not appear, but he is said to have won from the Welsh, at some time, the lordship of Kidwelly and Carnwyllion,† and to have built a castle at Kidwelly.‡ Doubt is, however, cast on these assertions by the late R. W. Banks in his article on Early Charters in South Wales in '*Archæologia Cambrensis*' (Series IV., vol. ix., p. 82), where it is contended that Henry I. was in possession of Kidwelly, Gower, and the Vale of Towy when he came to the throne in 1100. But if a fortress was erected at Kidwelly by this knight, its resisting strength could not have been great, as in the year 1094, when the garrison of Rhydygors, which for some time had overawed the Welsh, was scattered, the men of Gwyr (Gower) and these parts were encouraged to make an effort to regain their liberty. The effort proved successful, for the Normans were put to the sword or driven out of the country.§ Consequent on this rising a temporary deviation was made in the method of conquering Wales, for King William Rufus, on his return from Normandy in 1095, conducted a series of expeditions with the royal army, amid much ostentation into the marches of Wales. But, partly because his soldiers were miserably accoutred, and partly because of the strategical methods adopted by the Welsh, the royal army was repeatedly forced to

\* Powell, p. 117.

† *Ibid.*, xxxiv.

‡ *Ibid.*, p. 374.

§ Powell, p. 118.

retire without having gained any advantage. The conquest of Wales was again delegated to private enterprise, the chief feature of which was the erection of Norman Castles. By this means Wales became practically colonized by the military, so that each isolated movement of revolt on the part of the Welsh was immediately met by a local force. It will be seen that while the Saxon invasion hardly disturbed the equilibrium of this part of Britain, the history of Kidwelly in the middle ages is bound up with the Norman Conquest and its consequent exactitude and elaboration in the re-adjustment of things, both civil and religious.

About the year 1101, or two years after the death of King William Rufus, Ystrad Tywy, Kidwelly, and Gower were bestowed by Henry I. on Howel ap Gronow.\* From this fact it would appear either that William de Londres was merely in possession of the town of Kidwelly and its immediate vicinity, or that he was deprived by his new royal master of more extensive local property which might once have belonged to him. Howel ap Gronow was, however, killed in 1103 by the soldiers of the Norman garrison which had been re-established at Rhydygors Castle.†

Probably at this time the Norman invasion of Gower, Carnwyllion, and Kidwelly, already referred to above, took place. It would appear that the Normans had left a garrison at Kidwelly, and had probably otherwise kept themselves in touch with this district since the invasion of 1093, although conflicting interests in

\* Powell, p. 124.

† *Ibid*, p. 126.

the interval amply show that the inhabitants were still in revolt against Norman domination. Another *coup d'état* was therefore necessary in order to bring the Three Commotes (Carnwyllion, Kidwelly, and Iscennen) into definite subjection. It will be seen further on that Roger, bishop of Salisbury, Chief Justiciary and Treasurer to Henry I., was associated with this expedition. It is certain that this powerful minister was in possession of considerable property at Kidwelly in the earlier part of the 12th century, and he is made to appear as lord of the Manor of Kidwelly in a document, which, although undated, must have been executed prior to the year 1112, as Wilfrid (or 'Griffri' as he was known to the Welsh), bishop of St. Davids, who died in that year, is therein referred to as having given his consent to the consecration of a local cemetery provided for by the document (see Appendix A.). It is also equally certain that there was a castle in existence at Kidwelly at that time, for the document in question was drawn up at, and issued by Roger, from — 'the house of the Castle of Kedweli.' It is not indeed improbable that the castle which then stood was erected by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, for he became known to history as a great castle builder. He certainly built castles at Devizes, Sherborne, and Malmesbury, which not only excited the jealousy of the barons, but were the admiration of Europe.\* This, of course, could not have been the castle, the noble ruins of which still stand, as the style of architecture adopted in its con-

\* Hunt's 'Norman Britain,' p. 203.

struction was unknown at the beginning of the 12th century. It may therefore safely be assumed that this early castle, if it was built by Roger, was of a substantial character, and may have been the foundation on which the present castle was afterwards reared. Whether William de Londres voluntarily relinquished or was deprived of his interest in Kidwelly at this time, there seems little doubt that Roger was lord of the Manor and actual owner of its property in the first decade of the 12th century. Roger's sojourn at Kidwelly seems to have been brief, for William de Londres was again in possession of the manorial property in the year 1113.

## THE VICISSITUDES OF THE CASTLE.

**G**RYFFITH ap Rhys ap Tewdwr, the rightful prince of South Wales, who, from fear of King Henry I., had been from his infancy brought up in Ireland, made his appearance in Wales in the year 1110. The rumour of his arrival was spread in 1112, and it was at length reported to the king that a son of Rhys ap Tewdwr laid claim to the Principality of South Wales. A price was put on his head by the king, who offered a tempting bribe to Gryffith ap Cynan, prince of North Wales, at whose court Gryffith ap Rhys was staying, for his betrayal. Gryffith ap Cynan was captivated by the king's overtures, and consented to grant his demand. The young Prince of South Wales fled to Aberdarron Church for sanctuary, and when the royal messengers came to apprehend him, the clergy refused to give him up; whereupon he was conveyed by his friends to Ystrad Tywy. Here he declared open defiance to the King of England, and at length raised forces wherewith to attack the Normans and Flemings.\* His primary attacks were made on Llandovery Castle, which belonged to Richard de Pwys, and Swansea Castle, which was built by Henry Beaumont, Earl of Warwick, but each proved unsuccessful. On his return from Swansea to Ystrad Tywy, he burned and destroyed all the country before him. He afterwards destroyed the town of Carmarthen and laid siege to its castle, which was not surrendered, although the governor,

\* Powell, pp. 142—144.



Owen ap Caradoc, was killed. Gryffith's forces having by this time gained considerable strength, he marched next on Gower, and William de Londres and his soldiers, through whose territory the Welsh warrior had to pass, became so alarmed at his approach that they hastily forsook the Castle of Kidwelly. When Gryffith therefore arrived here, he found the place deserted, and a large number of cattle without owners. He forthwith burnt down the castle, and made off with the booty.\* About this time Gryffith ap Rhys was married to Gwenllian, daughter of Gryffith ap Cynan, prince of North Wales.

Maurice de Londres, as legal heir to the property, became lord of the manor of Kidwelly (see page 23), and at the death of Henry I. (1135) he owned a vast amount of property both here and elsewhere, and was, moreover, a powerful personage. He was the founder of Ewenny Priory, and between 1147 and 1176, during the episcopate of David, bishop of St. Davids, ' he gave and granted to God, and Saint Mary of Kedweli, and the monks of Schyrborne twelve acres of land around the Church of St. Cadoc, which adjoin the land of the aforesaid church of St. Mary ' (see Appendix C.).

As Gryffith ap Rhys had been a thorn in the side of the head of his family, so was Maurice de Londres destined to be harassed by the same prince ; for Giraldus Cambrensis records the fact (I. p. 168) that while Gryffith ap Rhys was absent in North Wales, whither he had gone to seek reinforcements from Gryffith ap Cynan, his

\* Powell, p. 146.



father-in-law, in support of his revolt against the Normans in South Wales, his wife Gwenllian put herself at the head of an army, and marched on Kidwelly :

‘ Gwenllian too,  
Who lov’d not self, but others ; who ever  
Shew’d herself the friend, the parent of her  
People.’

*The Siege of Kidwelly.*

‘ In Londres’ tent the clarion sounds,  
With rapid clangour hurried far,  
Each hill and dale the note rebounds,  
And echoes with the shout of war.’

After a hot engagement with Maurice de Londres’s Norman forces, which took up their position on the slope of a hill about a mile and a half north of Kidwelly on the west bank of Gwendraeth Fach river, which to this day is called the *King’s Wood*, the Welsh, under Gwenllian’s command, were defeated, and Gwenllian herself, together with her son Morgan, was put to death. The battlefield is still called *Maes Gwenllian* (the field of Gwenllian), and is situate on the eastern bank of Gwendraeth Fach river, opposite King’s Wood.

‘ Gwenllian was,—is not ! A day  
Of gloom, of darkness shrouds my mountain-land,  
Now that its sun is set !—The life-blood of  
The patriot-queen, this field,—that stream received !  
Bewidowed of its feathered tribes, that fled  
Aghast from villainy so great, that wood  
In holy stillness mourns th’ illustrious dead !  
Less callous they than man !

*Siege of Kidwelly.*

The date assigned to this battle by Dr. John Jones in his ‘ History of Wales ’ (p. 321) is 1130. It certainly

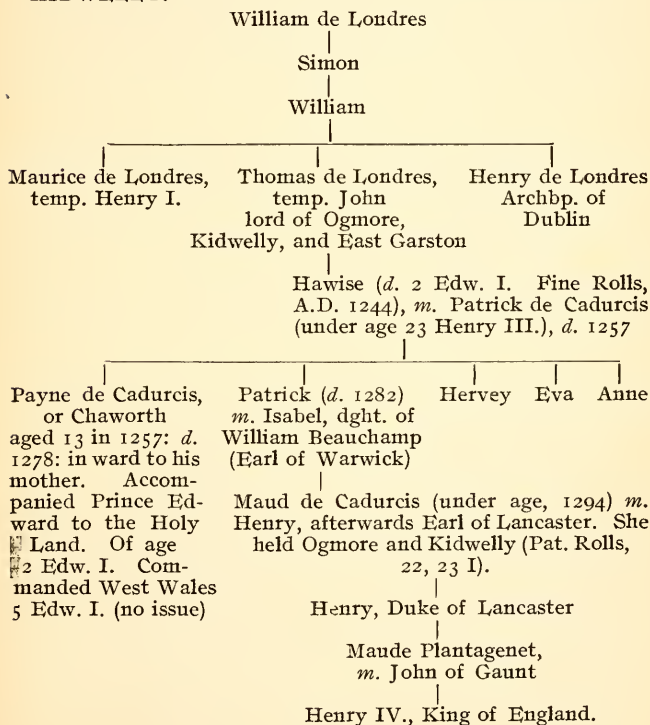
must have been fought prior to 1136, as Gryffith ap Rhys is said to have died in that year.\*

A glimpse is given into the private life of Maurice de Londres by Giraldus Cambrensis (Vol. I. Chap. 9), where it is stated that he had a forest in the neighbourhood of Kidwelly, which was well stocked with animals and especially deer, to which he was partial, being very fond of venison. An episode is related by Giraldus in connection with Maurice's partiality to the deer, and that of his wife to the sheep, which, for its quaintness, is here given in literal translation :—' His [Maurice] wife (for women are often very expert in deceiving men) made use of this curious stratagem. Her husband possessed on the side of the wood next the sea, some extensive pastures and large flocks of sheep. Having made all the shepherds and chief people in her house accomplices and favourers of her design, and taking advantage of the simple courtesy of her husband, she thus addressed him—" It is wonderful that being lord over beasts, you have ceased to exercise dominion over them ; and by not keeping your deer in order, do not now rule over but are subservient to them ; and behold how great an abuse arises from too much patience, for they attack our sheep with such an unheard-of rage, and unusual voracity, that from many they are become few, from being innumerable, only numerous." To make her story more probable she caused some wool to be inserted between the intestines of two stags which had been embowelled ; and her husband thus artfully deceived, sacrificed his deer to the rapacity of his dogs.'

\* Powell, p. 158.

After Maurice's death, the lordship of Kidwelly and the ownership of the castle seem to have passed to his brother, Thomas de Londres, and to have been transmitted down in that branch of the family until they were merged in the crown of England at the accession of Henry IV., as shown in the following genealogical table.

THE GENEALOGY OF THE BRANCH OF THE DE LONDRES FAMILY AFFECTING THE LORDSHIP OF KIDWELLY.



The castle is said to have been demolished again by Cadwgan ap Blethyn,\* and to have been rebuilt in 1190 by Lord Rhys, son of Gryffith ap Rhys ap Tewdwr by Gwenllian his wife.† Unlike his father, who lived under the ban of the English monarch, Lord Rhys was in favour with King Henry II., and enjoyed the peaceable possession of vast properties in Wales, which included the Dynevor demesne. He was, moreover, powerful by reason of his astuteness. The high esteem in which he was held by his countrymen is manifested in the following Funeral Verses to him, which are chronicled in 'The Remains concerning Ancient Britain' by Camden (p. 400):—

' Nobile Cambrensis cecidit diadema decoris,  
 Hoc est, Rhesus obiit ; Cambria tota gemit.  
 Subtrahitur, sed non moritur, quia semper habetur  
 Ipsius egregium nomen in orbe novum.  
 Hic tegitur, sed detegitur, quia fama perennis  
 Non finit illustrem voce latere ducem :  
 Excessit probitate modum, sensu probitatem,  
 Eloquio sensum, moribus eloquium.'

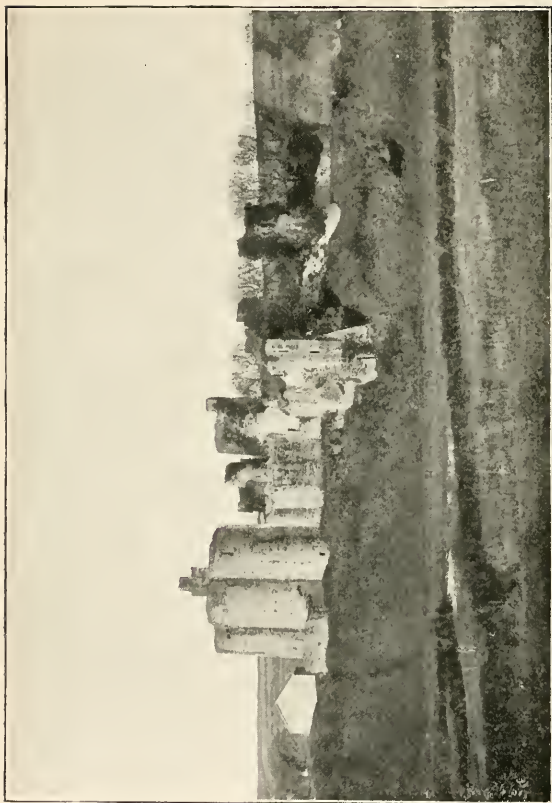
*Translation.*

' All Cambria mourns her noble Prince's fall ; for well  
 She knows that with him fell her glory's diadem.  
 Departed hence, he smiles beneath his native earth ;  
 And yet departed never, he whose glorious name  
 Shall live for aye, afresh upon the lips of men ;  
 Beneath the earth, and yet no earth can cover him,  
 That noble prince, whom everlasting fame forbids  
 To die. The greatness of his soul no one can tell,  
 Whom nature with her gifts so bounteously endowed,  
 That modesty with uprightness, with excellence

\* Dr. John Jones's 'History of Wales,' p. 321.

† 'Giraldus Cambrensis,' Vol. I., p. 9 ; and Powell, p. 209.





KIDWELLY CASTLE.  
*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*

Of mind, with eloquence of tongue, with purity  
Of soul, in rivalry contended each with each,  
And none surpassed.'—W. J. G.

The castle was again destroyed by Lord Rhys's grandson, Rhys ap Gryffith, and it shortly afterwards fell into the hands of the Crown.\*

It was granted by Henry VII. to Sir Rhys ap Thomas, and after being forfeited by his grandson, Rhys ap Gryffith, it became the property of Richard Vaughan, Earl of Carberry, and President of Wales,† from whom it has descended to Earl Cawdor, who now owns it, as well as the lordship of the manor of Kidwelly.

\* Dr. John Jones's 'History of Wales,' p. 321.

† *Ibid.*

## THE MANOR.

**T**HE manorial property was managed by a reeve, or receiver, appointed by the lord of the manor. The translated extracts given below throw some light on the nature and extent of the manorial estate.

## DUCHY OF LANCASTER.—MINISTER'S ACCOUNTS.

BUNDLE 584. NO. 9236.—P.R.O.

Account of Roger Aylward, Receiver of Kedwellye, Carn [wyllion], Iskennyn, and Oggemour, from 1 Octr. 43 Edward III. to 9 Septr. next following, by his commission dated the said 1st Octbr. (1369—70).

*Reeveship of Kidwelly.*—‘The reeve answers for 112<sup>s</sup> 6½<sup>d</sup>, received from Richard Box, late reeve, for the arrears of the year 43 Edward III., and £19 received from John ap Holdon, reeve, for the issues of this year by one tally.’

*Sale of Wine.*—‘£11 received for 2 doliums of Gascon red wine remaining in the castle by the purchase of T. Hervey sold to the Receiver and John Oweyn.’

*Wages, Fees, and Annuities.* ‘£13 6 8 for the fee of William Banastre and John Lassels for the office of Steward of Kedwelley and Carn [wyllion] for the whole of this year. 100<sup>s</sup> paid to Richard de Burley for fee of the Constable of the Castle of Kedwelley as for the half of the year 44 Edw. III. 38<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> paid to the same Richard for wages of the janitor of the Castle afore-said in part payment of 50<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> yearly. £15 paid to the same Richard for an annuity of £30, granted to him for life, payable at Easter and Michaelmas. 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> paid to John Nykell, carpenter assigned by G. Foljamb and the whole Council, surveyor of the works within the lordship of Kedwelly and Iskennyn, as part payment of 13<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> yearly.’

*Purchase of Millstones, &c.*—‘Twelve new millstones bought from John Lassels, two of them were delivered for Caddocmulne, two for the mill beneath the castle, and two for Morleismulne, two for Conmulne, one for Melyncoyd, and three remain at *les bakes*. 53<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> paid by him for the expenses and stipends of various men of law of Wales (diversorum hominum de lege



Wallens) for the reversion of a certain judgment where he is responsible to the lord for £6 13 4 in the Welsh court this year. 22<sup>s</sup>, the expenses of the Receiver and John Jordan for going to Haverford, le Dale, le Nangle, Swynsey, and several other ports to stay ships for the passage of the lord to Gascony, by letters of the king, and letters of the said lord Duke (Lancaster). 22<sup>s</sup> paid to John Jordan sent from Kedwelly to London to the council of the lord to certify the council of the death of William Banastre, and other affairs, and returning, namely 22 days at 1<sup>s</sup> per day. And 5<sup>s</sup> paid to Thomas Frankeleyn for going from Kedwelly to Plymmouth for business of the lord with letters of the steward and auditors.'

#### DUCHY OF LANCASTER.—MINISTER'S ACCOUNTS.

BUNDLE 573. NO. 9063.—P.R.O.

The reeve accounts for the following items:—

*Rent of Assize.*—'6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> for 20 days' work at ploughing in Penbrey at the lord's board, price of the ploughing 4<sup>d</sup>. 5<sup>s</sup> 11½<sup>d</sup> for 71½ days' work carrying hay, price of work 1<sup>d</sup>. 3/6 for 84 days' hoeing corn at ½<sup>d</sup>. 34<sup>s</sup> 2½<sup>d</sup> for 205 days' work reaping corn, price of work beyond reprises 2<sup>d</sup>. 104½ days' cartage of corn, price of the work beyond reprises 2<sup>d</sup>. 41 days for carriage of rods to the weir of Towy at ½<sup>d</sup>. 84 days for repairing weir. The rent (4<sup>d</sup>) of a cottage and 12 acres of land which Thomas Hervy took, before the council of the Lord Henry, late Duke of Lancaster, by rent and custom, to hold to him and his heirs as appears in the account for 34 Edw. iij.'

*Issues of the Manor.*—'9<sup>s</sup> for the meadow called Selkemedede. 6<sup>s</sup> for the crop of the meadow called Anevellmedede, with the pasture by the ox-house let to John Oweyn. 8<sup>s</sup> for the pasture beneath the castle—nothing this year because it is in the hands of John Oweyn, farmer of the mill within his farm by writing of the lord John, late Duke of Lancaster. 4<sup>s</sup> for issues of the herbage of the 'exterior garden' let to Richard Bitterley for a term of 5 years. 3<sup>s</sup> for the issues of the herbage and fruit of the "inner garden" near the castle sold to the abovesaid Richard this year. 4<sup>s</sup> 5½<sup>d</sup> for the farm of Dovecot at 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> yearly. 11<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> for farming a certain weir called Sully weir let to Thomas Hopkyn for a term of 12 years. 13<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> for the farm of the Fulling Mill. 12<sup>s</sup> for the pasture of Bourgh heuedes. 13<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> for the farm of the rabbit warren of Caldecote let to Meredith Don and Hoell

ap David Lloyd. 13<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> for the farm of the Fulling Mill called Bordeculle. 26<sup>s</sup> for the farm of 6½ acres at Putticroftes let to Thomas Fogour; and 3<sup>s</sup> for the pasture between the groves, sold to William Moritz. Also £17 15 7 for the farm of 2 water mills, called "Middlemulle" and "Caddokesmulle" let to John Oweyn this year by the Steward and Receiver, and the said John will repair the mills, with the ponds at his own costs, except the great timber, the millstones, the brass, and the iron, which the lord shall find, as appears in the last account for the year next preceding. 66<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> for the farm of 2 water mills called "Morlesmulle" and "Cowemulle" let to Ievan Vaughan, and Rees ap Moritz, for a term of 5 years.'

The rents of Assize include such items as these in lieu of rent—'3 lbs. of pepper at 1<sup>s</sup> 1<sup>d</sup>; and 4 lbs of cummin at 4<sup>s</sup>; and 12 horse shoes with nails at 1<sup>d</sup>.'

*Kidwelly Fach.*—The manor of Kidwelly, as will be seen from the following reference, pushed its possessions to the very gates of Carmarthen, a circumstance which may account for the fact that the district on the right bank of the river Towy at Carmarthen is still known as 'Kidwelly Fach.'

'To Gilbert Talebot, justice of South Wales. Order not to intermeddle further with 50 acres of meadow and 80 acres of marsh in the lordship of Kedewelli, but so that the King shall re-enter the premises if anything be found to establish his right thereto, as lately, at the suit of Henry de Lancastr, earl of Derby, showing that Patrick de Chaworth was seised at his death, in his demesne as a fee, of 100 arces of meadow, and 100 acres of marsh in that lordship, as parcel of his manor of Kedewelli near the town of Kermerdyn, and the premises were taken into the hand of Edward I. at Patrick's death by reason of the minority of Matilda, Patrick's daughter and heir; the Earl's mother, whose heir he is, the King's ministers asserting that they were parcel of the King's demesne of Kermerdyn, and the Earl beseeching the King to order them to be restored to him, the King ordered the justice to take an inquisition on the matter, by which it is found that the meadow and marsh near Kaermerdyn are 80 acres of meadow and 80 acres of marsh, and

*they are in the lordship of Kedewelli as parcel of the manor of Kedewelli, and are not parcel of the lordship of Kaermerdyn, and that Patrick died seised of the said meadow and marsh, in his demesne as of fee, as of parcel of the said manor; and that the meadow and marsh were taken into the hand of Edward I. as aforesaid, and that they are the right of the Earl, and are held of the king by homage as parcel of the said manor; and that Matilda was Patrick's next heir, and the Earl has besought the King by his petition before him and his Council in Parliament, to cause his hand to be amoved from the meadow and marsh; and the writ, inquisition, and petition being exhibited and read in Parliament before the great Council, it is agreed by that Council that the King's hand shall be amoved.'*—*Close Rolls*, 14 *Edw. III.*, April 8, 1340.

## LOCAL MILITARY LEVIES.

**T**HE following extracts show the contributions demanded of Kidwelly from time to time to the royal army.

'Esegarston [East Garston, Berks]. The manor [extent given] with the advowson of the church, held of the king in chief by serjeanty, as member of Kaddwelye, viz. :—with the garrison of Kaddwelye to lead the vanguard of the king's army, whenever he shall go into West Wales with his army, and the rearguard in returning.'—*Inquisitions—Writ 23 Sept. 2 Edward I., 1274.—P.R.O.*

'Esegarston [East Garston]. The manor, including 'scepescot' and "cherichscot," with the advowson of the church, held of the king in chief by serjeanty of finding one armed horseman with his horse barbed with iron, during the whole time the king shall remain with the army in the land of Kedwelly.—Maud his daughter, aged 1 at the Feast of the Purification last is his next heir.'—*Inquisitions, Berks, Saturday after St. James the Apostle, ii. Edward I., 1283.—P.R.O.*

'Commission to Walter de Beysyn to array 1500 Welsh foot, to wit, in the parts of Brecon 400 : in the parts of Castle Maud 300 : in the parts of Buelt and Hirveryton 500 : and Trecastle (de partibus trium castrorum), Kedwelli and Monmouth 300. And to Master de Clune, king's clerk, to pay their wages until they come to the king.'—*Patent Rolls, 26 Edward I., April 8, 1298.—P.R.O.*

'Request to Henry de Lanc[aster] for 100 footmen in his lands of Kedewelby [sic] and Kadewalthan [Carnwyllion].'—*Close Rolls, ii. Edward II., July 28, 1317.—P.R.O.*


'Commission to William le Blound and Robert de Hunteleye to raise 400 footmen from the lands of Kedewelly and Kayrwathlan [Carnwyllion] ; with like mandate to Henry de Lancastre, or his bailiff.'—*Patent Rolls. Membrane 28. 15 Edward II., Feb. 14, 1322.—P.R.O.*

'A mandate, issued to all persons of commotes, lands, and cantreds, to come properly armed to the king's assistance in the Scotch expedition, as their laudable assistance lately given when the king was pursuing the rebels in the Marches of Wales, makes the king confident they will be ready to do so. A claim is hereby made on the Cantred of Kedwelly, and the commote of Karnegwelliaun [Carnwyllion].—*Patent Rolls*, 15 *Edward II.*, June 10, 1322.—*P.R.O.*

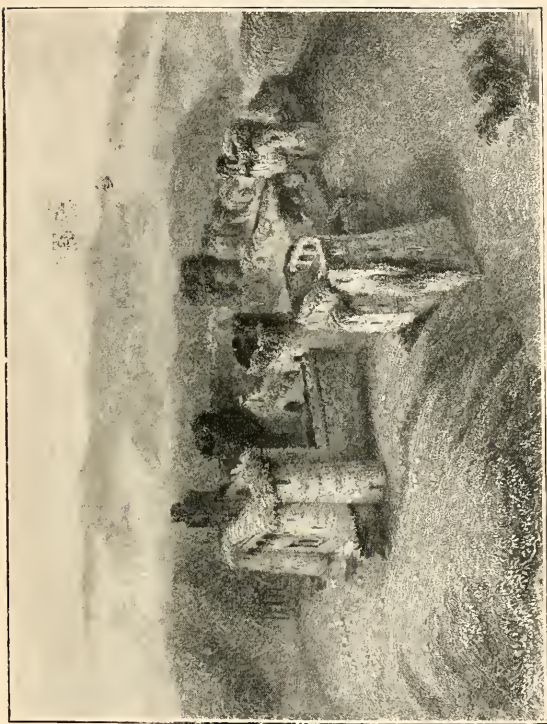
The lordship of Kidwelly entailed the conduct of the king's army—' with its banners and all its train through the middle of the country of Neth to Loghor, whenever the king or his chief justice came into these parts of Kidwelly.'\*

\* Camden's '*Britannia*,' p. 504.

## THE CASTLE.

 IDWELLY justifiably rejoices in the possession of a Norman Castle which in point of gigantic and symmetrical proportions, and present good state of preservation, may be considered as unrivalled in this part of South Wales. It occupies a commanding position on the right bank of the Gwendraeth Fach river, and nearly opposite the parish church and the site of the priory.

*The age of the present Castle.*—It has been observed that there was a castle in existence at Kidwelly in the early part of the 12th century (see page 17). This must have been of the Norman style of architecture, but as this style cannot be traced in the present building, even the oldest portions of the structure which now stands must have been built in a subsequent period. The inner ward, together with its drum towers, and the west wall of the chapel, are generally supposed to be earlier than the rest of the castle. The hall, which the inner curtain embraces, was, however, a later addition, as the flattened surface of the south-east tower, which was a provision for its gable, indicates. The earliest date assigned to the inner ward is the second decade of the 13th century. Although the unsubstantial character of the entrances to the inner ward suggests that the outer fortification was contemplated in the original design, the mural towers, and the uniting walls of the outer ward were probably of a later date. The great gate-house is of a still later date. Its architecture is that of the early

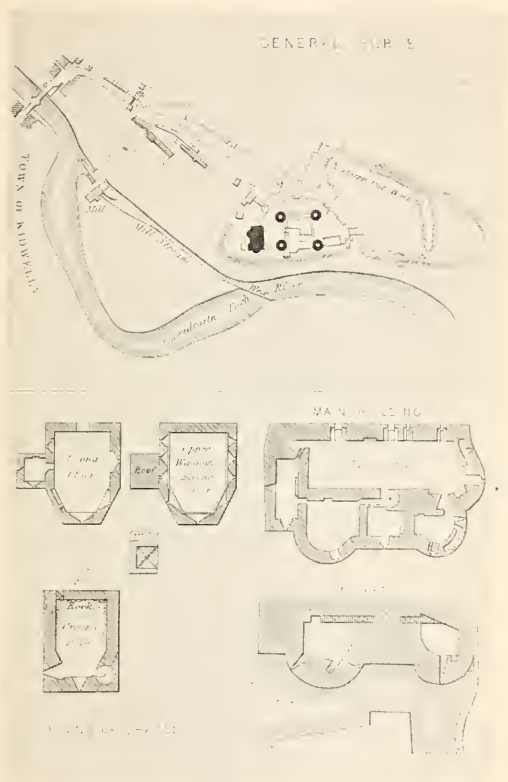


KIDWELLY CASTLE.



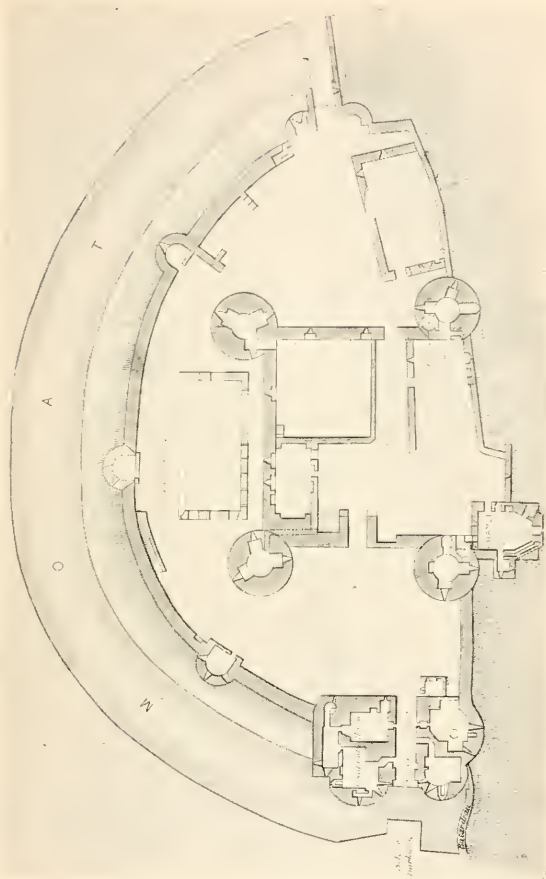


PLATE V.



KIDWELLY CASTLE.





KIDWELLY CASTLE.

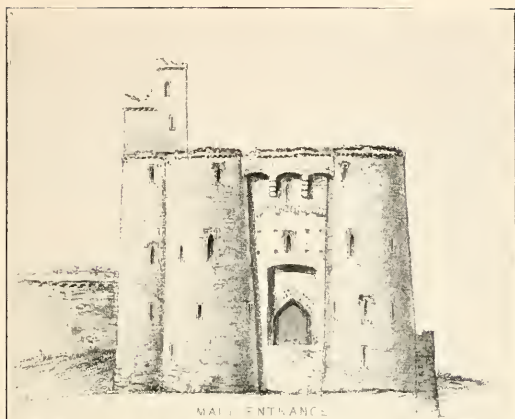




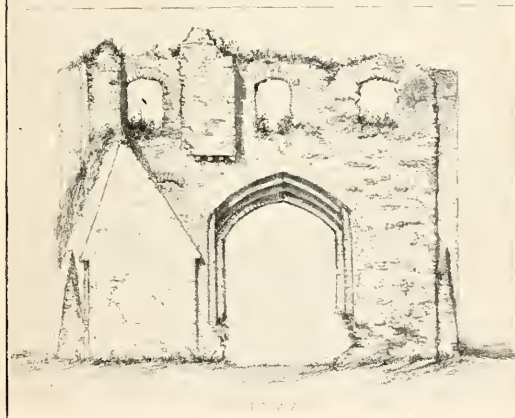
KIDWELLY CASTLE.



PLATE VIII.



MAIN ENTRANCE



KIDWELLY CASTLE.





*PLATE IX.*



*KIDWELLY CASTLE: THE CHAPEL.*



perpendicular, and therefore it could not have been built before the end of the 14th century.

*Its general arrangement.*—Professor A. E. Freeman, in a paper read by him at Cardiff,\* thus describes the castle :—‘The general outline of Kidwelly Castle is much more than merely grand and striking; it approaches very nearly to the nature of an architectural composition. Four massive round towers surround the keep; two others flank the great gate-way; a design sufficiently regular to be caught and understood by a person not acquainted with castellated technicalities, while the shiftings and different groupings of so many towers produce an endless variety of picturesque effects.’

As may be seen from the plan of the castle, the formation of the building is practically semi-circular, the curve being flanked with a moat, and its chord supplied by nature with a cliff and the Gwendraeth Fach river. A survey of the castle was made by Mr. George T. Clark for the purpose of a paper which he prepared for the Cambrian Archæological Association in 1850.† According to this survey, which principally forms the basis of the description here given, the castle measures 440 by 90 to 130 yards, and stands on about three acres of ground.

*The Inner Ward.*—The principal entrance to this ward, which has a portcullis groove, is in the south curtain. A quadrangle 80 yards square is formed by the four curtains, together with the drum towers, which form caps to the angles. The north-east and south-east

\* ‘Arch. Camb.’, New Series, Vol. I., p. 57.

† ‘Arch. Camb.’

towers are joined to the outer wall which is built on the precipitous edge of a cliff. The latter tower is also attached to the chapel, and has an outlet to the curtain of the outer ward which leads to the great gate-house. Three of the inner curtains are six feet thick and 18 feet high, and they have a rampart walk with parapets pierced at intervals with loops. The eastern curtain is, however, narrow and low, the cliff having evidently been considered to be a good defence on this side. In addition to the reception hall and the chapel, the inner ward contains the kitchen and a spacious refectory. The towers are 30 feet in diameter and 44 feet in height with battlements. Their walls are 9 feet thick, and each has a well-staircase and three lofts with loopholes and doors opening on the ramparts of the curtains. Three of the towers had wooden floors, while the north-west one is vaulted. This latter tower is directly accessible from the kitchen and from the porter's lodge along a rampart on the wall, whence it is called the 'Porter's Prison,' and incisions in the stucco of the chambers of this tower, such as may be seen in the Tower of London and many other places of mediæval confinement, together with the fact that its chambers are vaulted throughout, would suggest that it was used as a prison.

*The Hall and the Retiring-room*, which were in a line with each other, occupied the whole of the space on the east side of the inner ward. The south end of the hall rested against the south-east tower. The height and pitch of the roof may still be traced. The west wall of the chapel formed a portion of the east side of the hall, and a projection in the east curtain looks as if there

had been a small chamber attached to the hall. The west wall of the hall has disappeared. The length of the hall is 60 ft., and the width 25 ft. The retiring-room, which adjoins the hall and north-east tower, is 30 ft. long, and the same width as the hall. Here in the east wall is a loop, and near it the carved remains of the base of a chimney. **1378330**

*The Kitchen and Refectory* are opposite the hall and retiring-room respectively. The kitchen is 30 ft. long by 17 ft. wide. It has a large fire-place at each end, and a window which opens on the outer ward. A third small fire-place may also be seen in the south end. The doorway in the east wall has been made narrower than it was originally, an arrangement which may have been devised to obviate opening a door of unnecessary width in serving hot dishes. The refectory probably occupied the square space, 45 ft., to the north of the kitchen and bounded on two sides by the north and west curtains.

*The Chapel.*—In the paper already alluded to Professor E. A. Freeman gives this description of the chapel:—

‘The Castle chapel is a triumph of art; a building amply satisfactory, both in an ecclesiastical and architectural point of view, has room found for it in a structure purely military, without in the least interfering with the genuine character of the latter. The chapel forms the upper story of three in a building projecting from the main line of the Castle towards the east, and as this building terminates in a semi-hexagon, an apex is at once provided for the chapel. It is lighted by single trefoil lancets, whose small size and delicate execution at once call attention to this portion of the building as something distinct from the rest, without forcing it on the view in an inharmonious

prominence. Just the same is the effect of the admirably selected form and position. And the effect is heightened by the addition of a square projection to the south, whose upper story forms a vaulted chamber, which has clearly been the sacristy. Within, the whole architecture, perfectly plain, yet exquisitely finished, is precisely what that of a military chapel should be.'

It measures 26 ft. long by 18 ft. wide. Its height from the base of the outer projection is 56 ft., and from the inner surface 25 ft. In the north-east corner is a spiral staircase connecting the different floors. The ground floor of the chapel tower is below the surface of the interior of the castle, and is in communication with the adjoining hall by means of a staircase. The second floor was on a level with the hall, with which it also communicates. In the apex on the south side is a piscina, and near it a sedilia. In the south wall a door opens into the sacristy, and to the west of the door is a recess with a stopped loop. In the north wall there are also a door and loop, both of which are blocked.

*The age of the Chapel*, although a disputed point, may approximately be decided by the style of architecture adopted in its construction. While some authorities claim that the style is early English, and others that it is early Decorated, all seem to agree that it was erected between A.D. 1290 and 1310.

The outer ward contains the two gate-houses which are opposite each other, and are connected by an outer curved curtain in which at intervals there are mural towers 30 ft. high and 22ft. in diameter. This curtain is 330 ft. long, 6 ft. thick, and 20 ft. high, and has a rampart walk. The great gate-house is a massive pile 80 ft. by 50 ft., and 62 ft. high. The gateway is 11 ft

by 8 ft., and the moat at the threshold is 12 ft. deep. On either side of the main entrance is a conical tower 24 ft. in diameter at the base, and 20 ft. at the top, and over the entrance are three flat arches built into the wall to relieve the mass of masonry. The portal is roughly vaulted and has a portcullis groove at each end, as well as three apertures for gratings. The square tower, called *Pigin*, on the north-west angle of the block, is a later addition. This is 93 ft. high and was probably used as a watch tower. On each side of the portal are dungeons and guard-chambers, the latter having loopholes overlooking the main entrance. Another room on the right has a conical fountain beneath the surface, two recesses, and a sewer room. The first floor of the great gate-house is reached by a staircase from the outer court, over the porter's lodge, as well as by a spiral staircase in the square tower, and has four rooms, to one of which are large windows opening into the outer court. This has also a fire-place, as well as that which adjoins it. The third room was used for working the portcullis, and the fourth is a kitchen with a large oven. Unlike the other rooms on the first floor which had wooden floors, this room is vaulted, and has an outlet to the east rampart leading to the south-east tower. The second floor, also reached by spiral staircases, contains a large room with windows opening into the outer court, and several smaller apartments which, judging from the stuccoed walls and sculptured ornamentation, were used as state bedrooms.

The garrison seems to have been provided for by two



detached buildings in the outer ward, one to the west of the inner ward, measuring 65 ft. by 30 ft., and the other to the north of the inner ward, against the east curtain, and near the northern gate-house, measuring 60 ft. by 35 ft.

There is also a bakehouse against the curved curtain to the west of the lesser gate-house, with a large oven intact. Like the mural towers, the lesser or northern gate-house is rudely built, and bears the marks of rough handling.

*The Barbican* stood on an elevated position immediately opposite the main entrance to the castle, with the moat and drawbridge between. The foundations show that it was a semi-circular construction.

*The outer Gate-house* still retains its principal features. This also seems to have had its drawbridge and ditch. The illustration of this gate-house is among Grose's collection.

*Royal Visitors.*—The Castle of Kidwelly has from time to time been graced by visits from reigning monarchs. The first royal visit seems to have been made by King John, to which the following reference is made in the 'History of Margam,' by Dr. Walter de Gray Birch :—

'King John visited Margam Abbey on two occasions in the year 1210, prior and subsequent to his expedition into Ireland. Setting out from Westminster, 8th May, and passing through Odiham, Winchester, Marlborough, and Bristol, the king was at Neath on Friday, 21st May, Cardiff, Tuesday 25th May, Margam and Swansea 28th May, and Haverford on the last day of the month. The return journey was commenced at Dublin, Tuesday, 24th August; the king reached Fishguard Thursday, 26th August; Haverford and *Kidwelly* on the following day.'



King Edward I. paid a visit to Kidwelly in the year 1285, as will appear from an *Inspeximus*, 9 Richard II., Feb. 18, 1386—‘Confirmation, in favour of the burgesses of Kardigan, of a charter *dated at Kidwelly* 9 December, 13 Edward I., being a grant and confirmation to them of the lands and customs hitherto enjoyed by the burgesses of Kermerdyn, and divers liberties.’\*

King Richard II. visited the town in the year 1394, whence he issued the Charter of which the following is an abstract—‘Grant for life to Richard Mareys of the office of porter of the Castle of Bristol, at the supplication of the present holder John Dawe.’†

The same king paid a visit to Kidwelly in 1398—9, for in the Minister’s Account of the manor of Kidwelly which appears below, it will be seen that ‘the late king Richard II.’ spent a night in the castle.

‘Duchy of Lancaster—Minister’s Accounts. Bundle 573, No. 9063.—P.R.O. A memorandum dated 3 Feb. 22 Richard II. [1398—9]. John Wilkyns, Reeve, answers for “one pipe of wine remaining in the castle *after the departure of the late King Richard*, and sold by Walter Castell for 20<sup>s</sup> and more, it is said.’

When John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, died, King Richard seized the duchy estates ; then the new Duke (afterwards Henry IV.) came over from abroad, and raised a rebellion in England ; and King Richard, then in Ireland, came hurriedly over to England, landing at Milford Haven. It is probable that this was the occasion when he took a night’s shelter, en route, at the castle.

\* ‘Charter Rolls,’ 13 Edward I., No. 147, P.R.O.

† Patent Rolls, 18 Richard II., (Kidwelly Castle), Sep. 13, 1394.

The following translated abstract from the same Minister's Account may be of interest, as it gives some details connected with the preparations for the king's visit :—

' Nails bought for mending the Castle bridge 3<sup>d</sup>. The wages of six labourers hired to mend the said bridge for one day and a half, taking per day 4<sup>d</sup>=3<sup>s</sup>. Cleaning the chambers of the Castle this year by various hired men, 8<sup>d</sup>. Nails called ' bordenails ' bought for the wine cellar 3<sup>d</sup>. Wages of a man for cleaning the Castle ditch (fossam), 4<sup>d</sup>. For stable racks within the Castle, 2<sup>d</sup>. Carriage of rods for making the said racks from Wennalthe, 8<sup>s</sup>. A bucket for the fountain within the Castle, 2<sup>d</sup>. Two men hired for one day to clean the kitchen of the lord, 8<sup>d</sup>. Straw and litter bought for the beds of the officers of the lord, and rushes to spread in the rooms, 12<sup>s</sup>. Removing lime from the gate, 8<sup>d</sup>. Nails called " spikynnes " for the racks in the stable, 3<sup>d</sup>. Removing the great gates of the Castle, 5<sup>d</sup>. Finding fuel to one man for this year, 8<sup>d</sup>. Carrying the old gates of the Castle into the Castle, 4<sup>d</sup>. Making several new locks in the Castle, 2<sup>s</sup>. *and in fuel bought this year for Richard, late King of England, passing the night in the Castle, 4<sup>s</sup>. Carriage of the said fuel from Wennalthe into the Castle, 8<sup>s</sup>. Carrying that fuel into the house, 6<sup>d</sup>. Carrying the fuel out of the house for the purpose of cleaning the house, 4<sup>d</sup>. Rushes bought to spread in the rooms for the said Richard, late king, 12<sup>d</sup>. Roofing the stable by several men hired for that purpose, 16<sup>d</sup>. Straw bought for the stable and the beds for the coming of the Receiver and carriage of the same, 16<sup>d</sup>. Cleaning the rooms for the same, 8<sup>d</sup>. Rushes bought to spread in the rooms, 3<sup>d</sup>. Seventeen yards three-quarters cloth of white flax for one towel containing 8 yards, one towel containing 6 yards 3 quarters, and one towel containing 3 yards—price per yard, 2<sup>d</sup>. And for 8 yards of other cloth of flax for two " borderedcloths " for the officials, price per yard, 6<sup>d</sup>. For serving the ministers of the lord within the Castle, and for the stock of the said Castle, 8<sup>s</sup> 11<sup>d</sup>. Sum, 39<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>.'*

## THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

**C**UNEDDA Wledig, who was of Cymric race, was, moreover, a Christian, and the ancient British Church which was evolved from its predecessor, the Romano-British Church, owes its establishment, in a large measure, to this worthy chieftain, and his noble family.\* St. David, the founder, and first Bishop of the see which bears his name, was the great-grandson, on his father's side, of Cunedda. St. Cadoc, whose genealogy is somewhat enveloped in mystery, is, however, stated to have been the son of Cuneglasos or Cynlas, lord of Glamorgan, who was grandson of Cunedda's son Einion.† St. Teilo is also said to have been a descendant of Ceredig, another son of Cunedda.‡ so that this celebrated saint too belonged to the same illustrious family, being a great nephew of St. David.§ History relates the intimate association of St. Teilo with St. David, both in his studies under Paulinus in his monastery at Ty-gwyn-ar-Dâf (Whitland), and in the development of the British Church.||

Churches were dedicated to *St. Teilo* and *St. Cadoc* in the parish of Kidwelly, the crude walls of one of which still remain, and are known as *Capel Teilo* (Teilo's Chapel), and the site of the other is preserved by the name whereby a farm and district are still called *Llangadog* (The Church of Cadoc) and *Waungadog* (Cadoc's

\* 'Iolo MSS.', p. 909.

† *Ibid.*, p. 171.

‡ Newell, p. 77.

§ Archdeacon Bevan's 'History of St. David's,' p. 5.

|| 'Liber Landavensis,' pp. 334, 335.

meadow). By a charter, preserved in the Public Record Office, a grant was made by Maurice de Londres of twelve acres of land around the Church of St. Cadoc, and adjoining the lands of St. Mary for the salvation of his own soul, and those of all his ancestors, in the hearing of his son William de Londres, and in the presence of specified witnesses.\* This charter is undated, but as it is addressed to David, bishop of St. Davids, the transaction must have occurred between A.D. 1147 and 1176, as this could have been the only period within the lifetime of the donor when a David (Fitzgerald) was bishop of St. Davids.

Probably most of the ancient churches in Wales were called after the names of their actual founders,† and were not dedicated as modern churches are to departed saints. The dimensions of the local ruin of the church known as St. Teilo's, show that it was a small church, or oratory, and such as might only be expected to have been a mere out-post, like its sister church Llangadog, of the monasteries of St. Davids and Llandaff. This being so, Kidwelly would seem to have afforded accommodation for Christian worship as early as the seventh, if not the sixth century, when the above Welsh saints flourished. It may, however, be contended that Christian Churches of that age were constructed of wattle and mud, with hides for roofing, and not with stone, but as far as the ruined Church of St. Teilo is concerned, the writer cannot acquiesce in the belief in the backward stage of civilisation in which the contention would place

\* See Appendix C.

† Newell, p. 146.

the local Brythons at this time. It must be remembered that the church in question lay, not only on one of the great inter-tribal roads between Caerleon and St. Davids, which the later inhabitants of early Britain formed, but that it was also on the main Roman line of communication which led westwards from Gloucester through Caerwent, Caerleon, Cardiff, Neath, and Loughor to Carmarthen, and about midway between the two latter places, at each of which there had been a Roman station. It is therefore improbable, in view of the facilities for intercourse with the highly civilized Romans which their very geographical position would afford them, that the Brythons of the district would have remained ignorant of the art of stone building at that period. However, if these local churches had originally been erected with less enduring materials than stone, either from insufficient knowledge of the art of stone building, or from sentiment, there is no doubt that in the case of the one called after St. Teilo, the original was replaced by a stone structure whose ruins are still existent. Subsequent to the beginning of the eight century, when foundations of Welsh saints closed, the *Mihangel* or Michael dedications began, and the numerous *Llanfihangels* regularly distributed over Wales show that this dedication not only became popular, but that it also became a Welsh dedication. Tradition states that on the site of Maenllwyd-mawr already referred to, there stood a church called *Llanfihangel*, and the farmer on whose land the site is, testifies that he has come upon stone foundations of a substantial nature there, and that a large stone slab, with a chamfered edge, measuring 7 ft.

by 15 in., and 7 inches thick, was carted from the site to the precincts of his own house, where it now serves as a bridge across a brook at the entrance to the farm-yard. Its size and appearance would suggest that it was a large window-sill. It could not have been a Druidical relic, as by Druidic principles no monolith was allowed to be touched by any iron or metal instrument.\* There is, moreover, in close proximity to Maenllwyd-mawr a well, which still goes by the name of *Ffynon Mihangel* (Michael's Well). There was also until recently a *columbarium* or pigeon house near by. The well is on the sea side of the road which intersects it from Maenllwyd-mawr, and the *columbarium* was between the latter and Waungadog.

*All Saints' Church.*—In all probability the site of the present parish church was previously occupied by an earlier church. The Welsh of by-gone ages sometimes dedicated their churches to numerous saints without specifying the names of their patrons, such as *Llansaint*, *Llandeusant*, *Llantrisant*, and *Llanpumpsaint*. A reference made by Dugdale† gives credence to the probability of a pre-existing church here, for it is stated that 'Richard Fitzwilliam gave to Sherborne Monastery the Churches of St. Ismael, and Penalt, of *All Saints' at Kidwelly*, and St. Elthut at Penbray; all in the diocese of St. Davids, with all that appertain to them' (see Appendix B.). The Church of Penallt is denoted by that description; and the ancient churches belonging to Kidwelly are located either by the ruins

\* Morgan, p. 57.

† 'Mon. Angl.', Vol. IV., p. 65, No. ii.

that still remain, by tradition, or by place-names which have been handed down. Besides, All Saints' Church is cited as the *church of the territory of Kidwelly*, by which appellation it may be concluded to have been the Mother Church of the district. There is no evidence, either traditional or otherwise, to establish the location of this particular church, as there is in the case of the other two churches above mentioned. It may therefore be assumed to have been a predecessor of the existing parish church on the same spot. It may, however, be contended that the reference to All Saints' Church points to Llansaint, in the parish of St. Ishmael ; but *Llansaint* does not seem to appear in any ancient documents which have reference to Kidwelly. Besides, as *St. Ismael*, and even *Penalt* and *Penbray* are named as contributaries, the area which the churches of Kidwelly served appears to have been at that time almost co-extensive with the present ecclesiastical parish of Kidwelly ; or, as the jurisdiction of the Incumbent came to be called ' Kidwelly within, and without the Borough.' The assumption of a pre-existent church accords also with the age of the church which now stands, whose style of architecture forbids an earlier period than the latter part of the 13th century to be assigned to it. It is also probable that the former church was the one which is said to have been burnt down, together with the town and the religious houses, by Prince Llewelyn, A.D. 1222, when he surmised that the Magistrates of Kidwelly intended to betray him to William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke.\*

\* Powell, p. 248.



Documentary references are made to '*the Church of St. Mary, Kidwelly*,' in a period which was anterior to that which the architectural style of the present church indicates. It may therefore be assumed that the former church was, under Norman sway, re-dedicated to St. Mary, which probably would have been done after a temporary restoration.

At the time when the Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV. was made, in the year 1291, or thereabouts, the church of Kidwelly seems to have been an ecclesiastical Rectory merged in the Priory, and was at that time taxed, or valued as being of the yearly value of twenty marks (£13 6s. 8d.).

*The Deanery of Kidwelly.*—The following account from the Taxation of Pope Nicholas (p. 273) shows the extent of the deanery of Kidwelly, together with the value of its component churches, at the end of the 13th century—

*Taxatio Archidiaconatus de Kermyrdyn.*

*Decanatus de Kedwely.*

Ecclesia de Kedewely	..	..	£13	6	8
„ Lanetly	..	..	10	0	0
„ Penbrey	..	..	6	13	4
„ St. Ismaele	..	..	6	13	4
„ Landevaylok		..	13	6	8

At this period Llanelly included the parishes of Dafen and Felinfoel, and the parish of Llangendeirne was included in that of Llandefeilog.



## THE PRIORY OF KIDWELLY.

**A** PRIORY of the Benedictine order was founded at Kidwelly by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, in the year 1130, for a Prior and two monks. This was annexed as a cell to the monastery of Sherborne Abbey, in Dorset.\* As the founder figured rather prominently in the concerns of Kidwelly at this time, it may be interesting to dwell, very briefly, on his personality. This noted ecclesiastic, whom Henry I. appears to have met during his sojourn in Normandy,† was a priest of a church in Caen, and was destined to become a notable factor in the history of England during that reign, for he was appointed the Chief Justiciary and Treasurer, and was soon made bishop of Salisbury. The affairs of State were practically in his hands, and the confidence reposed in him was not misplaced, for his elevation was fully justified by his capable administration. In his zeal for the spread of his royal master's dominion, he is supposed to have crossed over to Gower, with some other adventurers, and to have proceeded along the coast through Carnwyllion to Kidwelly, districts whose inhabitants, in spite of previous invasions, still remained unsubjugated, and resentful of Norman intrusion. Kidwelly seems to have had special attraction for him, and he evidently secured from his sovereign a grant of the district for himself.‡ It is certain that he had possessions at Kidwelly in the former

\* *'Notitia Monastica.'*

† William Malmesbury, p. 441.

‡ *'Arch. Camb.'*, Series IV., Vol. ix., p. 82.

part of the 12th century, as it is stated by Dugdale\* that by an Imprimatur of David, bishop of St. Davids, a carucate of land (probably the site of the future Priory) at Kidwelly, with the land called Mount Solomon (a corruption possibly of *Mynydd Sulen*), extending to the sea, was given, free of all consuetudinary payments, to the Abbey of Sherborne, in the reign of King Henry I., by Roger, bishop of Salisbury; Turstan, or Thurstan, being at that time Prior (sic) (see Appendix A.). This dignitary was consecrated *Abbot* of Sherborne in the year 1122. In the Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV., A.D. 1291 (p. 276), it is stated—

‘Prior de Kedwelly habet apud Kedwelly unam carucatam terrae cum redditu et perquisitis £2 10/-. Exitus animalium, Prior habet quinque vaccas.—exitus 5/-. Summa £2 15/-.’

That is—‘The Prior of Kidwelly has at Kedwelly one carucate of land with rent and perquisites £2 10/-. Issues of the animals. The Prior has five cows.—Issues 5/-. Total £2 15/-.’

The temporalities belonging to the Priory in the 26th year of King Henry VIII. are stated in ‘*Valor Ecclesiasticus*’ (vol. IV., 412) to have been as follows:—

*Translation.*

‘Cell of the Priory of Kydwylly.—John Godmester, Prior there, has in temporal tenements, with demesne lands there £6 13 4 by the year. And it is worth in churches there, with the chapels annexed, £31 6 8. Sum of the total, £38. Therefrom, for the tallage of the lord the King yearly, payable at the exchequer of Kedwelly 10/-. Also in yearly pension payable to the Abbot of Shirborne, 40/-. And in the ordinary visitation there, 40/-. And in fee of the Steward there yearly, 40/-. In the fee of the bailiff and receiver there yearly, 40/-.’

\* ‘*Mon. Angl.*’, pp. 64, 65.

Sum of the deductions	..	..	£16	0	0*
And so there remains clear	..	..	29	10	0
The tenth thereof	..	..	2	19	0

A document preserved in the Public Record Office relates a protracted ecclesiastical proceeding, dated in 1428, wherein the prior and convent of Kidwelly claimed of certain persons two parts of the tithes, real and personal, and particularly of wool, milk, cheese, and lambs, arising on certain lands within the bounds and limits of the parish of St. Mary of Kidwelly, as rectors of the same; and by this suit the said tithes were awarded to the prior and convent as rectors. The basis of the judgment on which the prior's petition was laid is given by Dugdale† (see Appendix D).

\* This is evidently a misprint, and should have been £8 10 0.

† 'Mon. Angl.,' Vol. IV., p. 66, Num. V.

[D]

## THE SITUATION OF THE PRIORY.

IT has been persistently asserted that the ancient ruins at Penallt, between Kidwelly and the mouth of the river Towy, and about a mile from the former, are those of the Priory of Kidwelly. But this must be regarded as a mere conjecture, as there appears to be no evidence whatever in its favour. Documents frequently refer to the '*Church* of Penallt,' but never to the *Priory* of Penallt. Moreover, the '*Church* of Penallt' is made to appear as distinct from the Priory of Kidwelly and its dependent churches, as those of *St. Ishmael* and *Pembrey*. The situation of Kidwelly Priory must therefore be sought for elsewhere. Happily there is abundant evidence, documentary and otherwise, in favour of associating the site of the priory with the ruins which may still be seen on the left bank of the Lesser Gwendraeth, and hard by the east boundary wall of the present parish churchyard. It is said that 'beggars are no choosers.' On this principle the monks had to be content with what land was granted to them for monastic purposes by Norman landowners, which, as a rule, was a tract of waste and unfertile soil. And it was no inconsiderable item in the *regime* of the monks to bring the land given them to the highest pitch of cultivation. The monks of the religious house of Kidwelly, however, do not seem to have been dealt with in a niggardly spirit, and this may be accounted for by the fact that the donor of the land which they possessed was, as has been stated, himself an ecclesiastic, viz.,

Roger, bishop of Salisbury ; who in apportioning his grant appears to have carefully considered the requirements of the institution ; such as its contiguity to the existing church (which generally was the centre around which all monastic establishments clustered, and also to a stream (see Appendix A), for its convenience. It has been already observed that the real property enjoyed by this religious community, consisted of a *carucate* of land—a term which the Normans introduced, and which meant a plough-land (*caruca*) that might be ploughed with one team of oxen in a year. The land now covered by the gardens attached to the tenements in Lady Street was, within living memory, known as ‘the priory fields.’ Ample evidence is also supplied by the proceedings at the Prior’s Court held at Kidwelly, that the land now occupied by Lady Street, or St. Mary Street, belonged to the prior. The following extracts from the ‘Court Rolls,’ in the Public Record Office, together with their bearing on the subject, may not be uninteresting as showing the condition of social life, the tenure of property, and the adjustment of differences, in those days. It may also be inferred from the proper names how the Welsh—who, at the dedication of a local cemetery at the beginning of the 12th century, had evidently become sullen, and who, either from choice or compulsion, had kept aloof from the foreign colony, which consisted of French, English, and Flemings (see Appendix A)—began to intermingle with the foreign settlers.

COURT ROLL, PORTFOLIO 215. NO. 39.—P.R.O.

' At the Court of the Prior of Kedwelly, held on Thursday next before the Feast of St. Margaret the Virgin—A.D. 1311.

' Thomas Cas offers himself against William Portereve in a plea of a convention, and demands from him half a cow. They are given a day, Sunday before the Feast of St. Margaret, the Virgin.

' William Portereve has the entry to the tenement which was that of William Bronygt, and pays for entry 10/-. Pledges John Portereve and Bernard Coqus, and has in payment two calves, and the residue at the Feast of All Saints.

' At the Court of the Prior of Cadwelly held on the morrow of the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, the Virgin—A.D. 1311.

' Walter Bernard is summoned to answer the Prior concerning a tenement which he has deprived him of, and because nothing can be found whereon to distrain him, therefore it is determined that it shall be seized into the hands of the Prior.

' John Owen and Lucy Weron have tomorrow to come to some agreement, and unless they can agree the aforesaid Lucy must be attached to the suit of the aforesaid party.

' John Howen brings a complaint against Lucy Weron, and because he does not prosecute his suit, he is amerced, and Lucy Weron goes quit.

' At the Court of the Prior of Kadwelly held on Wednesday next after the Feast of S. Barnabas, the Apostle—A.D. 1312.

' Agnes Sekeryn widow of Maurice Sekeryn brings a plea of trespass against Thomas Gower ; is amerced six pence.—Pledge Elias Kiste.

' At a Court held on Saturday next before the Feast of St. Margaret the Virgin, 35 Edw. III.

' John Pitifier, Thomas Brounyng, William Portrese, and Adam Crompe are convicted at the suit of the lord (the Prior) for trespass made by their beasts at Gabcrofte in the lord's corn, therefore they are amerced twelve pence.

' At the Court of Robert Fyfhyde, Prior of Kedwelly held on Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter, 11 Richard II.

' To this Court came Agnes ap Owen widow and surrendered into the hands of the Prior her tenement which is situated in a street called Sentemarestret [St. Mary, or our Lady Street] next to the tenement of a certain Herr ap Mad : on the one part, and the tenement of John Malier on the other part, and upon

this Ievan ap Res Wyt appeared, and gave to the said Prior a fine of 20/- to have entry into the said tenement for the term of his life, and Welthian his wife ; and after their decease to remain to their daughter Margaret for the term of her life, paying therefor yearly to the Prior, and his successors 2/- at two of the three principal terms, namely Easter, and S. Michael, by equal portions, and doing one day's harvest and another at hay-making, and rendering therefor the rents and services due and customary.

'To this Court came James Richard and Johan Dayo his wife, and surrendered into the hands of the Prior their tenement which is situated in a street called Syntemarystret between the tenement of Ievan ap Yanto on the east and the tenement of a certain Herr ap Mad on the west, and upon this came Walter Weysy, and gave to the said Prior a fine of 16/- to have the entry into the said tenement for the term of his life ; and Isabell his wife, and after their death to remain to their son John for his life ; paying therefor yearly unto the Prior and his successors 2/- at Easter and St. Michael, by equal portions and doing one day's harvest, and one day haymaking, and service therefor due and customary.

'To this Court came Elena Bik, and gave the Prior for a fine forty shillings for a tenement which is situated by that of Ievan ap Owen on the south and that of John Canan on the east.

'To this Court came John Pretefer and Elan his wife and gave to the Prior for a fine forty shillings to have the right of entry into the tenement of Mabely Schynner for the term of their lives, which tenement is situated in Seyntmarestrete by the tenement of Ievan ap Yanto on the east, and that of John Stoke on the west for the term of their lives.'

The proceedings at the last court prove that the land in the immediate neighbourhood of the parish church belonged to the prior, as St. Mary Street (now called Lady Street), which runs parallel with the church, is specified as being within his ownership. The ruins already referred to are also in the vicinity of the same church, and therefore it is unnecessary to identify with the priory any other situation than this. And Leland, in his Itinerary, says—'In the new Toune is only a



Chirche of our Ladi; and by this is the Celle of Blake monkes of Shirburne. Ther the Prior is Patron of our Ladi Church.' The foregoing judicial transactions also show that although some of the priory land still remained under cultivation, a considerable portion of it was let out for tenements. This, of course, would enhance the value of the property; and generally, as monastic property increased in value, and the frugality of the monks enabled them to store up their material resources, their chief pride, whether of the Benedictine or Cistercian Order, consisted in the erection of magnificent churches to the glory of God. The production of the present Parish Church is therefore not improbably due to their noble and self-denying zeal.

*A list of the Priors of Kidwelly.*—A diligent search among the original documents at the Public Record Office has yielded, as a result, the names of eight priors, which are here given, together with the years in which they respectively filled that capacity.

			A.D.
Galfridus de Coker	..	..	1301
Robert Dunsterr	..	..	1346
John Flode	..	..	1361
Robert Fyhyde	..	..	1428
John Shirborn	..	..	1482
John Henstryge	..	..	1490
John Whitchurch	..	..	1520
John Godmyster	..	..	1537

This list appears to give the names of the priors, in consecutive order, for 236 years, but it would appear, judging from the date of the foundation of the priory



(A.D. 1130) that Prior Galfridus de Coker was preceded in the office by others whose names and years of office it has proved too difficult to ascertain. There is no doubt that John Godmyster was the last prior, as he held the office at the Dissolution.\*

*The Dissolution of the Priory.*—When the Priory of Kidwelly was suppressed, the Rectory, in which it was merged, fell into the hands of the Crown, and the monastic temporalities were disposed of by lease in the year 35 Henry VIII. (A.D. 1544) to certain persons of the name of George Ashe and Robert Meyrick, yeomen, and purveyors of wine to the king, for twenty-one years. This lease, a copy of which is given in Appendix F, is in the Public Record Office, and gives a minute description of the tithes thereby demised, together with the places whence they arose. Among the leased possessions, the following details are specified :—the site of the priory, all buildings, edifices, curtilages, granaries, cemeteries, pleasure-ground, orchards, gardens, and fish-ponds; and the reserved rent for the whole of the property involved is stated to have been £30 6s. 4d. Among the exceptions, however, is one of a yearly pension of £8 to the vicar.†

\* Dugdale 'Mon. Angl.', Vol. IV., p. 66.

† Leland's 'Itin.', Vol. V., p. 23.

## CONSECRATION OF AN ANCIENT CEMETERY.

**T**HREE days after the date of the deed whereby certain lands were given by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, to Sherborne Abbey, the same donor set apart and consecrated a cemetery at Kidwelly, 'with the license and consent of Wilfrid, bishop of St. Davids' (see Appendix A). The document in question is undated, but the citation of the name of the bishop who then held the see of St. Davids helps to assign an approximate date both for the grant of land and consecration of the cemetery. Wilfrid was the last Welsh bishop of St. Davids before the Norman rule, and he appears in the official list of bishops of St. Davids under his Welsh name of *Griffri*.\* He was also known as *Jeffrey* as well as *Gryffyth*.† He died in 1112, and was only succeeded two years afterwards by Bernard, the first Norman bishop of St. Davids.‡ The date of the document referred to, and therefore of the consecration of the cemetery, must have been prior to 1112. And as Wilfrid held the see from 1096 to 1112,§ the consecration must have taken place between those dates. Henry I. did not come to the throne till 1100, and as Roger only came into prominence during his reign, these local transactions must have occurred between the years

\* 'St. Davids Diocesan Directory.'

† Newell's 'History of the Welsh Church,' p. 167.

‡ Archdeacon Bevan's 'History of St. Davids,' pp. 59, 61.

§ *Ibid.*, p. 249.

1100 and 1112. This cemetery probably occupied the property which is numbered 760 in the Ordnance Map of 1880, and 62 in that of 1907, and which adjoins the Llansaint road about 300 yards from the castle where the deed was executed. This enclosure is, moreover, still generally known as *Mynwent Domos*—St. Thomas's cemetery.

It is not improbable that there was an oratory provided for this place of interment, a circumstance which would account for the tradition which claims that there was an ancient chapel on the site.

## THE VICARIATE OF KIDWELLY.

**T**HE provision of a yearly pension of £8 to the Vicar (see p. 55) shows that there was a Vicariate at Kidwelly when the priory was dissolved; and in the ecclesiastical suit, already referred to, there is a strong presumption in favour of the previous existence of a vicariate, as it may be assumed that the third portion of the tithes which was not laid claim to by the prior and convent, belonged then to the vicar. There seems, however, little doubt that the vicariate of Kidwelly existed at the beginning of the 14th century, for in a Court Roll (portfolio 215, No. 39, P.R.O.) appears this entry:—‘At the Court of the Prior of Kedwelly, held on the day of S. Kalixtus, Pope and Martyr, A.D. 1310—Nicholas Kyngman excuses himself against Thomas Cas on plea of debt by *Thomas, the Vicar.*’

(1) As vicarages are generally supposed to have been established in the eighth year of Henry II. (A.D. 1162), ‘Alwyn’ may not have been vicar according to the general acceptation of the term, but he is specifically denominated as ‘the Priest of the town’ in the deed whereby a grant of land was made by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, to Sherborne Abbey, probably within the first decade of the 12th century (see Appendix A).

(2) The appointment of John Griffith was made subject to the condition that ‘an annual pension of 26s. 8d. be reserved to the previous Incumbent (John Chayny) till he be appointed to a cure.’—*Bishop’s Register.*

(3) Roger Prichard was Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

*Vicarage House.*—This residence was built in 1895, in accordance with plans prepared by Mr. Thomas Arnold, architect, Llanelly. The total cost of the building was £1804.

PLATE X.



VICARAGE HOUSE.

*From a Photograph by  
Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



## LIST OF INCUMBENTS OF THE BENEFICE.

Name.	Date of Institution.	Patron.
Alwyn, 'the Priest of the town'	A.D. 1111 (circa) (1) ..	
Thomas, the Vicar	A.D. 1310 (see p. 23) ..	
David Sandir	Aug. 21, 1399 ..	King Richard II.
Philip Morvyle		
John de Kedwelly	April 29, 1404 ..	The Abbot & Convent of Sherborne
John David	Nov. 1, 1482 ..	John Shirborn, Prior of Kidwelly
John Gumva	Oct. 13, 1490 ..	Bishop of St. Davids
John Chayny	May 26, 1491 ..	The Prior of Kidwelly
John Griffith	Nov. 25, 1502 (2) ..	John Henstryge, Prior of Kidwelly
Richard Shiers	March 16, 1561 ..	Queen Elizabeth
Roger Prichard	Aug. 25, 1626 (3) ..	King Charles I.
David Evanson	July 14, 1669 ..	King Charles II.
Maurice Howell	June 27, 1701 ..	King William III.
William Jenkins	Feb. 27, 1734 ..	King George II.
David Williams	Feb. 21, 1752 ..	Ditto.
Charles Phillips	July 5, 1808 ..	Ditto.
Charles Wm. Bowen	Aug. 16, 1810 ..	King George III.
Richard Williams	March 17, 1831 ..	King William IV.
Thomas Griffiths	Aug. 13, 1840 ..	The Lord Chancellor
William Hughes	Dec. 14, 1880 ..	Ditto.
Sinnett		
David Daven Jones	Feb. 17, 1888 ..	Ditto.

## CHANTRIES.

**T**HERE was a chantry at Kidwelly which is known to have been dedicated to St. Nicholas, and there would seem to have been more than one. It is explicitly stated in the Minister's Accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster, kept at the Public Record Office, that there was a chantry 'within the walls of the Castle of Kidwelly,' as the following translated abstracts prove :—

BUNDLE 584. NO. 9236.

'Account of Roger Aylward, Receiver of Kedwelly, Carn : Iskennyn, and Oggemour ; from 1 Octob. 43 Edward iii. to 9 Sept. next following, by his commission dated the said 1st Oct. (1367—70).

'Item, 74<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> paid to Thomas Davy, Chaplain of the Chantry within the Castle of Kedwelly for this year, for his salary, and for finding bread and wine, and candles, as well for himself, as for a certain monk to celebrate within the Chantry of the said Castle for the same time.'

BUNDLE 573. NO. 9066.

'Item, allowed to the accountant for bread and wine and candles, to be provided daily throughout the year for 1 mass in the Chantry within the Castle to be celebrated by the Prior and monks of the Priory of Kedwelly, 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>.'

The dedication of this chantry is not given, but it is improbable that in a purely military establishment, such as the castle was, the chantry would have been dedicated to St. Nicholas ; for this saint—presumably the Bishop of Myra—is the patron of scholars and mariners.\* Sea-faring, with its important branch of ship-

\* Owen's '*Sanctorale Catholicum*.'



building, which is known at a later period to have become, in no small measure, a means of livelihood to the local community, had probably been the development of centuries, and the association between the nature of the people's employment and St. Nicholas might well have commended itself to the consideration of the founder in his selection of a patron for his chantry at Kidwelly. It would therefore be more natural to seek the location of this chantry within the precincts of the parish church rather than in the castle, which would necessarily have been prohibited to civilians. There is also a further and more palpable reason against assigning this chantry to the castle, for by an Act of Parliament passed in the first year of Edward VI., cap. 14, all foundations of chantries, chapels, and guilds which had not been in the actual possession of King Henry VIII., were given to the king. At the dissolution of the chantries, the property belonging to the chantry of St. Nicholas was seized by the Crown, and disposed of under a lease dated 12th March, 3 Edward VI., to a certain John Goodale, for a term of 21 years, from Easter, 1548, upon payment of a total rent of 45/- (see Appendix G). This lease would hardly have been necessary if the castle chantry had been that of St. Nicholas, as it would already have been Crown property, the castle and lordship of Kidwelly, which had been held by the De Londres family, having passed into the Duchy of Lancaster when Maud de Cadurcis, who held Ogmore and Kidwelly, was married to Henry, Earl of Lancaster. Maud's property accordingly was annexed to the Crown, through the

Duke of Lancaster, and Blanche, who was married to John of Gaunt, when Henry IV. succeeded to the throne of England (see the genealogy of the de Londres family, p. 23). The fact also that the priests of the castle chantry were, as has been seen, paid direct by the local receiver of the Duchy, is itself an acknowledgment that it was an institution which belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, now merged in the Crown, and for which the Crown held itself responsible.

It may, moreover, be said that chantries were most frequently formed within existing churches, such as the ends of aisles, as is the case in St. John's Church, Brecon, and many other ancient churches which may be cited ; or in cruciform churches, such as the Parish Church of Kidwelly, in the transept. It is beyond doubt that the south transept of the latter church is a distinct appendage to the main building. In fact, it is called the *Mansel Chapel* to this day. Whether the Mansel family (of Muddlescwm) within the parish originally erected it does not appear ; but a mural tablet, which may still be seen there, records the fact that it was, at any rate, restored by one of that name. The inscription is as follows :—‘ Near this place lieth the body of the Reverend Mr. John Mansel of this town, M.A., and late Vicar of Pembrey, who departed this life the fifth day of December, 1766 : aged 73 years. . . . *This Chappel was rebuilt in the year 1767 at the expense of the above John Mansel.*’

In this transept chapel, near the south-east angle of the inner wall, there is a good specimen, well preserved, of a *piscina*, and there are two tombs formed, and arched

in the south wall. Archæologists have frequently pointed out the shortness of the transepts as being one of the peculiar features of the church, inasmuch as they are not symmetrical with the other proportions of the original dimensions of the present church. This, therefore, as well as the fact that the end centre of one is about three feet out of line with that of the other, supports the theory of their being mere annexations. Chantries, when formed within parish churches, were screened off with traceried wood-work from the main building, but no trace of this can be discovered in the arch which divides this chapel from the church. In the shafts of the arch which separates the north transept from the nave, however, regular sockets, which have been stopped, may still be seen on both sides. Besides this, while making excavations in the year 1903, preparatory to laying down a heating apparatus, a *sarcophagus* was discovered beneath the surface in this transept. As the chantry, or chantry chapel, became the tomb of the founder, it is not improbable that this was the receptacle of the mortal remains of the founder for whom masses were said in this particular chantry. The *prima facie* evidence, therefore, afforded by these discoveries, favours the theory that the north transept was once used as a chantry, and the foregoing considerations have likewise an equal tendency to prove that this was the position of the 'chantry of St. Nicholas.'

## THE PARISH CHURCH.

**I**T would seem, as has been already observed (see p. 44), that the present parish church was erected on the foundation of a previous edifice which probably had been a temporary restoration of the church which is said to have been burnt down, together with the town, by Prince Llewelyn in the year 1222.\* It was one of the comparatively few monastic churches which were preserved at the suppression of the monasteries, and permitted to remain as the church of the parish; the priory churches of Brecon and Monkton being similar exceptions in the diocese of St. Davids. It is dedicated, as might have been expected under the circumstances, to St. Mary; for the Marian dedication became popular under Norman influence, and the Marian churches, as they are called, were generally found in towns, and under the shadow of the Norman castles, as well as in secluded places in connection with Cistercian Monasteries. In his 'History of the Diocese of St. Davids,' the Venerable Archdeacon Bevan, who at all times is a most trustworthy authority on any subject he has written upon, whether historical, archæological, or otherwise, thus describes the church—'Kidwelly Church may be cited as the best example, among parochial churches, of the Decorated Style in this diocese, its distinctive features being the large span of its nave, its spacious chancel, short transepts, and lofty tower surmounted by a graceful spire.' Among the papers

\* Powell, p. 248.

PLATE XI.



KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH FROM THE NORTH.

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



*PLATE XII.*



*KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH.*

*ROOF DAMAGED BY FALL OF TOWER, 1884.*





PLATE XIII.



KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH.

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



PLATE XIV.



KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH.

CHANCEL ORIGINAL WINDOWS. SOUTH SIDE.

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



handed down to the present incumbent is a somewhat exhaustive report made by Sir George Gilbert Scott, after a careful personal survey of the church in the year 1854, in view of a projected restoration of the edifice at that time. It is as follows :—

‘ The church is one of the most remarkable in South Wales, and though retaining many of the features characteristic of the district, it would appear, as far as its details are concerned, to be the work of an architect from some other neighbourhood. It consists of a nave of the extraordinary span of 33 feet in the clear, without aisles, small north and south transepts, and an ample chancel, forming altogether a simple and uniform cross. The tower stands at the north-western angle of the nave, forming a north porch, opposite which is an ordinary porch on the south side. There is also an ample sacristy, or vestry, on the north side of the chancel.

‘ The plan is, however, not precisely of its original form, as the nave has been very considerably shortened, so that the tower and the porch, instead of being, as at present, at the western angles, were formerly about midway between those angles and the transepts.

‘ Though the tower would appear at first sight of earlier date, I am inclined to believe that the whole church (excepting, of course, alterations and mutilations of comparative modern periods) is of one age, and that it was erected, on one uniform design, about the end of the reign of Edward II., or early in that of Edward III.

‘ The chancel and the tower are the only parts which now show very distinctly the original character of the church. They appear at first sight to differ greatly in style, the chancel having rich flowing tracery in its windows, while those of the tower are of a severe lancet form. On close examination, however, I am led to the conclusion that this is not the result of any difference in their dates, but merely of a desire for the one feature to be as rich, and the other as simple, as their means on the one hand, and the style of the period on the other, would permit. I draw this conclusion from the following evidence :—There is so strong a resemblance between the mouldings of the doorways (including both of those in the tower) and the arches into the chancel and transepts, as to prove them all to be of one age. As, there-

fore, the window tracery of the nave is gone, it might be objected that the nave, with the transept and chancel arches, may be all of earlier date than the chancel itself. I find, however, a loophole on the south side of the nave, distinctly agreeing with the style and age of the chancel ; and, on further examination, I find another in the staircase of the tower, with an ogee arch, pointing at the same age. These indications, taken in connection with the perfect unity of the general plan, convince me that the whole is of one date, and that the lancet windows of the tower are merely the result of economy.

‘ The tower, however, though so severely simple, is a very noble structure ; it is of great size, and is surmounted by a good spire, perfectly plain and unperforated. It unites, externally, the usual type of its period with that more distinctly characteristic of the district, particularly in retaining the high battering basement so constant in Welsh towers, though the angles are flanked with two buttresses. The lower story of the tower, internally, is vaulted ; it is faced with rough stone, and has a singularly picturesque character. The nave is perfectly simple in its character, both within and without. The windows have been reduced to mere arched openings by the destruction of the mullions and tracery, excepting only the west window, which, dating only from the shortening of the nave, is a late perpendicular window of rude character. The only remaining internal features of the nave are the three great arches, which are of a very bold and good character, and the doorways, which are simple, but good. The transepts are in much the same condition with the nave ; that on the south side, however, has one window retaining its mullion, but apparently not of the original date. This transept has several arched recesses for tombs, and several sepulchral slabs have been found in both transepts.

‘ The chancel is the portion which not only was, from the first, the most highly finished, but which retains most of its original beauty. The east window was of five lights, but unhappily, its mullions and tracery have been removed, and I fear its design will, with difficulty, be recovered from the fragments scattered in different parts of the borough. On the south side, however, two windows retain the whole of their tracery, and the other a portion of it ; all are of excellent character. On the north side the windows are blocked, but one seems nearly perfect. The sedilia and piscina are perfect, and of very good design.

'The vestry has been in a great measure re-built on the old foundation. It has formerly been of two stories. The stairs to the upper story remain, with a very perfect traceried loop-hole opening into the chancel. On the other side of the vestry door are well moulded octagonal brackets for lights.

'The chancel arch is segmental, and very low, not extending above the height of the side walls of the nave. There is a rood-stair, the entrance of which is blocked up, but it would appear as if it must have opened over the chancel arch, over which the rood-loft may probably have extended, an arrangement which would account for the lowness of the arch.

'The roofs are throughout of late date. That to the chancel is the best, but appears to be about the time of James I. ; that to the nave is probably of the last century (18th), but is in many parts decayed, and hardly safe.

'The walls are of massive thickness, and are generally in a sound state.

'The parapet of the tower is nearly all gone, and the upper part of the spire has been re-built so badly as to destroy its symmetry.

Consequent upon the catastrophe which befel the parish church in the year 1884, when the spire was struck by lightning, and the top masonry was hurled through the roof of the nave, the defective and dilapidated work alluded to in the above report has been well and substantially restored under the direction of Messrs. Middleton and Prothero, Architects. The spire, which had been but indifferently rebuilt after a similar catastrophe in the 17th century, to which the registers bear witness, has now been restored to its original and symmetrical proportions, and at a renovation in 1904 it was also pierced. The west window, complained of as 'being of a rude character,' has been replaced by a perpendicular window of good style and workmanship. The other windows of the nave have also received new mullions, though not the original tracery ; and the roof of



the nave, which could only have been placed on massive walls, cannot but appeal to the admiration of all who observe it, as well as reflect much credit on the designers. It will have been noticed that the period assigned by Sir Gilbert Scott to the building was 'about the end of the reign of Edward II., or early in that of Edward III.' This would mean the former part of the 14th century. This contention, however, has not remained unchallenged, for Dr. Freeman, the once celebrated antiquary, who accompanied the members of the Cambrian Archæological Association in their visit to Kidwelly in August, 1875, maintained that the church had a 14th century nave added to a 13th century tower.\* Mr. Edward Laws, F.S.A., of Tenby, at a visit of the same association in August, 1906, also held that certain portions of the chancel, such as the rich moulding of the piscina and the tracery of the small circular loophole in the opposite wall, point distinctly to the early English style of architecture.

Sir Gilbert Scott, even, had some hesitation in arriving at the conclusion that the whole church belonged to one age, on account of a seeming difference between the architectural style adopted in the tower and in other parts of the building. His eventual decision was, in fact, the result of a more minute scrutiny of the various portions than was primarily instituted by him; and it was based on the testimony borne by the resemblance, in the first place, between the mouldings of the tower doorways and those of the chancel and transept arches;

\* '*Carmarthen Journal*,' August 27, 1875.



and secondly, between the loophole in the staircase of the south wall of the nave, and another in the stair-case of the tower, which have similar arches, and are therefore claimed to be contemporaneous. The transition from the Early English to the Decorated style seems to have been so gradual that it is said to be impossible to draw a sharp line of demarcation between them. So imperceptible is the transition in its various stages, that each style may be sub-divided into *early*, *middle*, and *late*, the early being often mixed with the previous style, and the later dragging on to the subsequent one.\* There seems, therefore, to be no reason, in the case of this church, which by a consensus of opinion, belongs to the incipient stage of the Decorated period, viz., the latter part of the 13th or the former part of the 14th century, why the Early English Style should not yet have lingered in the transition to the Early Decorated.

*Its Architectural Features.*—These are—

- (1) The numerous stair-cases in the walls.
- (2) The peculiar lowness of the chancel arch.
- (3) The segmental character of the main arches.
- (4) The great breadth of the nave, and absence of aisles.
- (5) The abrupt terminations of the transepts.
- (6) The number of its sepulchral recesses.

There are four stair-cases within the walls of the building. The one in the south wall of the nave possibly constituted an approach to a *rostrum* whence the Epistle was read, and the one, the entrance to which is gained

\* Parker's 'Introduction to Gothic Architecture,' p. 161.

from the north transept, probably led to a similar *rostrum* whence the Gospel was read. The stair-case near the angle formed by the pillars of the chancel and south transept arches is a spiral one, and led to the rood-loft above. To the right of the entrance to this stair-case is a *stoup* which probably was used for ablution before any ascent to the rood-loft was made. The other stair-case is in the main wall of the sacristy, or vestry. This starts from what originally was the first floor, and the traceried loophole already referred to, opens into it, thus serving as a window, and possibly also as a *squint*, for it is not improbable that the first floor of the sacristy was used as an anchoret cell, where a recluse found his or her permanent home. The tracery of the circular loophole represents a wheel, and is indicative of the flight of time.

*Anchorages* were frequently attached to a church, and were occupied by anchorites that belonged to a religious order, and bound, of their own free will, by a vow of seclusion. Female recluses often made their abode in such cells, partly for protection, and also for the sake of religious advantages which such a location would naturally afford. The doors of the cell were either locked or blocked up with masonry under the authority of the head of the order to which the inmates belonged, either for a period of years or for life. The cell generally had three shuttered windows, one opening into a chamber for the anchorite's attendant, another through which any necessary communication with the outside world could be made, while the third looked, as the loophole in this instance does, into the sanctuary of the church.

The peculiar lowness of the chancel arch may be accounted for by the presumption, which is borne out by the height of the spiral stair-case, that the rood-loft. extended above the arch. The segmental formation of this, and the other main arches, effect an angle with the pillar abruptly, and have no continuous imposts nor capitals to the shafts. The corbels on which rested the canopy over the loft are still preserved in the wall. The change of mouldings also at the junction is considered by Dr. Freeman to be rare in England, and is reminiscent of later French work.\*

The extraordinary breadth of the nave, without aisles, is also thought by the same authority to belong to some south Gaulish church.

The transepts start direct from the nave, and not from a central tower, as is usually the case in monastic churches, and their unsymmetrical abruptness, supports the contention which has already been made, that they are mere annexations to the main building.

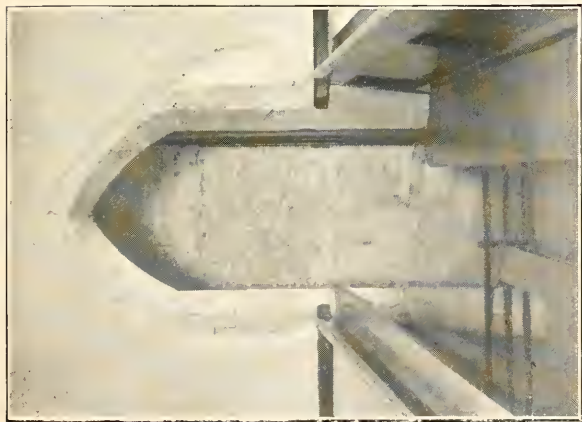
There are, altogether, six arched sepulchral tombs. Two of these are in the chancel, two in the south chapel, and two in the nave. Those in the chancel and nave have no monumental slabs, but one of those in the south chapel is occupied by a recumbent effigy of one who might have been a local *domina*, with an illegible inscription, and the other by a slab bearing an incised cross supposed to belong to the 15th century, but which has been appropriated by a comparatively modern alderman of the borough. It is probable that the sepulchral

\* 'Arch. Camb.', Series IV., Vol. vi., p. 412.

arch in the north wall of the sacrarium was used as a recess for entombing the rood, or the Crucifix in the rood-loft during the interval between Good Friday and the morning of Easter Day. There is also a monument, now placed in an erect position in the south chapel, of a civilian, clad in the *tunica talaris*, which is said to belong to the 14th century.\*

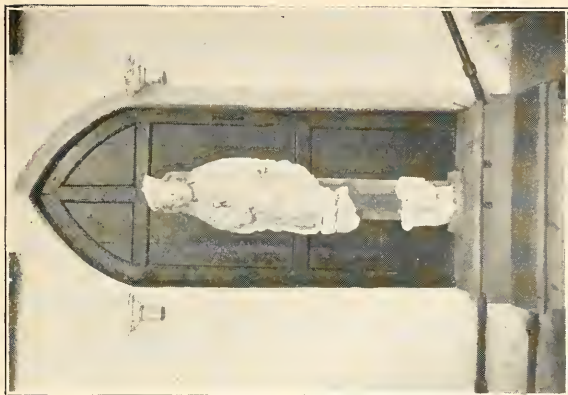
*Figure of the Madonna and the Infant Saviour.*—The church rejoices in the possession of a unique figure of the Virgin, crowned, bearing the infant Saviour, and a bird, in pure white alabaster, a good specimen of 15th century art. The sculpture is, however, considerably mutilated, both by reason of exposure to the elements in Puritanical times, and rough handling. The head of the child is gone, as well as the left arm of the Virgin. One of the birds and a section of the lower part are also wanting. Still, sufficient is left to give a fairly accurate idea of its pristine beauty. It was once lodged in the niche above the door of the south porch, where, within living memory, women curtsied to it on entering and leaving the church. From this position, however, it was taken down in the year 1875, seemingly to the chagrin of many of the parishioners, and was cursorily buried in the churchyard, whence it was, on remonstrance, again unearthed and placed in the tower. It is now in the sacristy awaiting restoration. Its original position would seem to have been the niche in the wall on the south side of the east end of the nave, where it proudly stood beneath the rood-loft, and above the approach to the spiral rood-stairs.

\* '*Arch. Camb.*', Series IV., Vol. vii., p. 412.



KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH.

ENTRANCE TO MURAL STAIRCASE, SOUTH SIDE.



KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH.

THE FIGURE OF THE MADONNA BEARING THE INFANT SAVIOUR.

From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly



PLATES XVI.

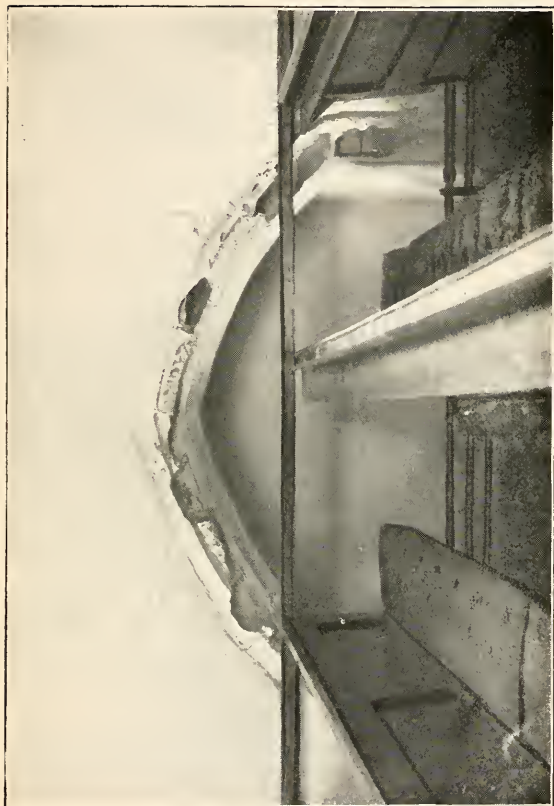


KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH: THE CHALICE AND PATEN

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*

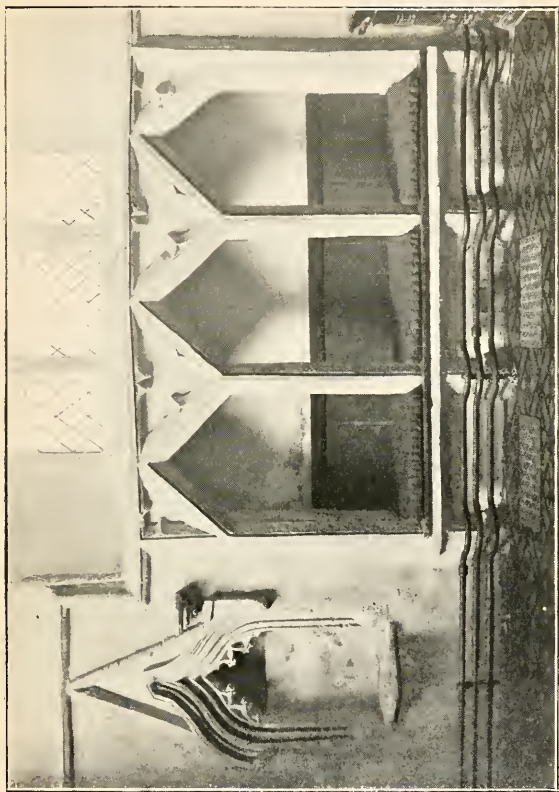






KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH: SEPULCHRAL RECESS.  
*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*





KIDWELLY PARISH CHURCH: THE SEDELIA AND PISCINA.  
*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



*The Church Plate.*—The inventory of goods pertaining to the church which was returned by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose at the beginning of the reign of Edward VI. (1552), included the following:—

2 chalices of silver, partly gilt.

A small cross of silver, partly gilt.

A censer of silver.

A pyx of silver.

4 bells, great and small.

One chalice, in the hands of Morys ap Rhys, Gent.

Nothing is now known of these accessories. The oldest existing vessels are a silver chalice and paten, both dating from the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The chalice bears the following inscription in Latin: ‘Poculum \* Ecclesie \* de \* Kydwelly \* 15 \* 74,’ and is pronounced by connoisseurs to be one of the best specimens of Elizabethan ecclesiastical plate in the diocese of St. Davids.

*The Registers.*—The parochial records extend back to the year 1626, and there are what appear to be extracts from a previous register. These latter date from the year 1586. All the entries down to A.D. 1733 are in Latin, and are in bold and legible caligraphy.

The systematic registration of baptisms, marriages, and burials was only established at the end of the reign of Henry VIII. A royal injunction was issued by Thomas Cromwell, Vicar-General, Sept. 29, 1538, demanding the incumbent of every parish to ‘keep one book or register, which book he shall, every Sunday, take forth, and in the presence of the churchwardens, or one of them, write and record in the same all the

weddings, christenings, and burials made the whole week before.' The first register books seem to have been of paper, but in 1597 it was enacted that every parish provide itself with a *parchment* book, into which the entries in the paper registers were to be transcribed. This enactment will therefore account for the entries which appear at the beginning of the earliest parchment register of Kidwelly, for they are probably copies made from a previous record book.

One of the records in the local registers is specially interesting, not only as a chronicle of an untoward event, but also as conveying an antiquated atmospheric idea. It is as follows :—

' Upon the 29th day of October 1481, the steeple of Kidwelly fell downe by lightning and a clap of thunder between one and two o'clock in the afternoon.—From lightning and tempest ; from battle and murder, and from sudden death, Good Lord, deliver us.'

*Church Restoration.*—Consequent on the lightning disaster of 1884, the measure of church restoration adopted and carried out was comprehensive, and involved an outlay of £1813 8s. 1d.

*Church Bells.*—For many years the belfry of the parish church has contained a peal of bells. It used to be a common saying that ' Kidwelly bells were heard at Swansea,' and this is accounted for by a local tradition which states that the bells which had been originally intended for Kidwelly were taken by sea to Swansea. However, if the tradition in reference to a confusion in the consignment of the local bells be founded on fact, Kidwelly has now received ample compensation in the

splendid pipe organ which was purchased at a reasonable price in 1907 from the vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's Church, Swansea. The following extract from *The New Monthly Magazine* for March 1, 1820, may be of interest, inasmuch as it shows that the bells were formerly *swung*, and that some were re-cast about the time when the notice appeared in the above periodical. 'The inhabitants of Kidwelly were highly entertained on the 24th ult. by the revival of church bell-ringing, having for many years been destitute of that gratifying melodious music, in consequence of four bells out of the original peal being broken, which deficiency was supplied by John Kingston, bell-founder, of Bridgewater by four new ones.'

The present peal consists of six bells, and are fixed for chiming only, it being thought that this method would conduce to the safety of the tower masonry. They were re-cast by Charles Carr, Ltd., Bell-founders, Smethwick, in 1902, at the cost of £140, and were dedicated, together with a new altar and reredos, by the Lord Bishop of St. Davids on May 3rd of the same year.

*The Town Clock.*—This is also in the church steeple. When the tower was struck by lightning in the year 1884, the interior workings were badly damaged, and the clock was stopped for several years. In 1902, however, it was restored, and the dials were raised to a higher elevation at the expense of the municipal corporation, in commemoration of the Coronation of King Edward VII.

## ST. TEILO'S MISSION CHURCH.

This was erected in 1892 to supply the spiritual needs of residents of Mynydd-y-Garreg. The site, which originally was a leasehold, was converted into freehold property in the year 1902.



## THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH CHARTERS.

**C**ONSIDERABLE facilities were given in the reign of Henry I. towards the attainment of municipal privileges in England, and also in those parts of Wales which had been colonised, as Kidwelly was, by Norman settlers. The feudal system was introduced into the government of towns after the Conquest, and the English rights of *sac* and *soc* were understood to imply a manorial estate.

The first charter to Kidwelly was granted by Henry I. to Roger, bishop of Salisbury, and lord of the manor, between 1103 and 1112. Practically, it was a provision for the freedom of the lord, and the immunity of the men of his demesne, from tolls and consuetudinary dues. This charter appears to have been confirmed by Henry II. to William de London, and his son William secured its confirmation from King John in 1205, and again from Henry III. in 1228.\*

Sometimes the example of the king was followed by the lords who granted charters to their towns, and they often obtained permission from the Crown to grant greater privileges than in their own right they could do. The charter which Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and lord of the manor of Kidwelly, granted to the town in 1357†, is a local instance of this beneficence. This may

\* '*Arch. Camb.*,' Series IV., Vol. ix, p. 82.

† 30 Edward III.

more strictly be regarded as a grant of certain rights and privileges of quite secondary importance, and exemption from certain tolls, than a regular charter. Reference to its provisions is made in the Appendix.

Down to this time no charter had been given which contained a hint of corporate existence.

In 1444, however, a charter was granted by Henry VI. which definitely provided for incorporation, and which, in this sense, may be regarded as the original Charter of Kidwelly (see Appendix).

In 1541, on the application of the mayor of Kidwelly, the previous charter was confirmed by Patent of Henry VIII., dated February 20, in the 32nd year of his reign.

In 1551, the same charter was again confirmed by Patent of Edward VI., dated May 20, in the 4th year of his reign.

In 1619, a new and elaborate charter was granted to the borough by James I., dated July 16, in the 16th year of his reign.\* This is the charter by which the borough was governed in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, until it was replaced by the last charter. The full text of the charter of James I. is given in the Appendix.

In 1885 the latest charter was granted, a copy of which is also given in the Appendix.

It is sad to relate that the originals of all the early charters are lost!

Although efforts have been made to recover that of James I., as an old minute book of the corporation

\* '*Arch. Camb.*', Series III., Vol. iii., p. 1.

testifies, all attempts to regain possession of it have so far been futile. This document can hardly be of any use or value to any private individual, while to the mayor and corporation, its rightful custodians, it would be a priceless possession. In the hope, therefore, that this book may help in the quest, an appeal is made to any of its readers who may have some knowledge about its whereabouts to acquaint the municipal authorities with the fact. It need hardly be said that anyone who would vouchsafe such information as might lead to its recovery, would confer an inestimable boon on the ancient borough. Publicity is hereby given to a clue provided by a representation which is placed on record at the foot of the minutes of the Hall Day held at the Guildhall of the borough on Friday, July 18, 1783 :—

‘Whereas one of the Charters of this borough was delivered to Mr. Pember, an Attorney at Gloucester, to be given in evidence in a cause there depending, wherein he was concerned, and Mr. Pember having in answer to a letter sent him by the Town Clerk, informed us that he delivered the said Charter to Mr. Leonard Bilson Gwyn, in order to be returned to this corporation, and that he has his receipt for the same; and several applications having been made to the said Mr. Leonard Bilson Gwyn to deliver up the said Charter, he hath given for answer that he had delivered the same to the late Mr. Lewis Rogers in his lifetime. And whereas, on inspecting the Town Chest, the said charter is not to be found therein, and if the fact (sic) be true, that the same charter was delivered to Mr. Lewis Rogers, it probably must have remained (not being found in the chest) among his papers, which papers are in the custody or power of Mr. Gwyn, but it appears to us that Mr. Gwyn has, since the death of Mr. Rogers, confessed the said charter was in his custody. It is therefore ordered that application be made to the Court of King’s Bench in the next Michaelmas term for a mandamus to be directed to the said Mr. Leonard Bilson Gwyn, to shew cause why he should not deliver up the said charter to the corporation.

And that it be referred to the Mayor, Recorder, and Justice, with the assistance of the Town Clerk, to consider and prepare the necessary means for such application. And they are to lay the same before the Council at a future meeting thereof. And it is further ordered that the Town Clerk do cause a copy of this Order to be delivered to the said Mr. Gwyn, that he may prevent the necessity of the application to the Court of King's Bench, if he thinks proper.'

Unhappily, Gwyn's expulsion from the aldermanic chair by the unanimous vote of the council, on the plea of non-residence, is recorded in the same document. This seems to have aggravated a difference which had arisen between him and the corporation in 1780 by reason of the refusal, on the part of the latter, to renew to him a lease of the tin mills, a refusal which afterwards was made subject to a lawsuit. Leonard Bilson Gwyn was mayor in 1779. He seems to have resided latterly at Swansea; and in a document, reference to which is made in the minutes of the Hall Day held July 23, 1787, *Eliza Maria Wigley* is represented to have been his daughter. In 1788 the corporation renewed the lease formerly granted to Gwyn in the name of Gabriel Powell, of Gellihir, Glamorganshire.

*The Seal and Arms of the Borough.*—It will be seen from the illustration that this is a somewhat inelegant heraldry, and its conception appears to be due to a misapprehension of Leland's extraordinary etymology of the name *Kidwelly* (see page 3), for Leland's mythical *Cattas* seems to have been taken for a cat!

*Markets and Fairs.*—Two markets and one fair were established by charter as far back as the latter part of the 13th century, as testified by the following extract:—

PLATE XIX.



SEAL OF THE BOROUGH.

*From a Photograph by Mr James Henry Davies, Kidwelly*



'Grant to Payn de Chaworth, and his heirs, of two weekly markets at Keddewelly, in the March of Wales; one on Tuesday, and the other on Saturday; and of a yearly Fair there on the [vigil] of the Feast, and the morrow, of St. Mary Magdalen, and the five days following.'—*Charter Rolls*, 52 Henry III., Oct. 22, 1268.—*P.R.O.*

The markets and fairs were leased to the bailiff of the town 22 Richard II., Feb. 3, 1398, for 30s. yearly.\*

The markets have now been discontinued on account of the proximity of Carmarthen and Llanelly, and the travelling facilities between Kidwelly and those towns; but fairs are still held on the following dates:—*St. Luke's fair*, Oct. 29 (hiring and pleasure). *Gwenllian fair*, first Monday in December (cattle and pigs). *August fair*, August 3rd and 4th (cattle first day, pigs second day). *May fair*, first Tuesday after the 20th of May (horses, cattle, and pigs). The last named was established in the year of the Coronation of King Edward VII.

\* 'Duchy of Lancaster—Minister's Accounts.' Bundle 573, No. 9063.—*P.R.O.*

## DOMESTIC BUILDINGS, AND NOTED FAMILIES.

**B**OTH Celts and Saxons were content with the crudest architecture, and an advance of this art amongst them came through foreign influence. It remained, therefore, for the Normans, and Flemings who followed in their wake, to hand down to posterity what still remains at Kidwelly of mediæval architecture, domestic as well as ecclesiastical. Among the domestic remains may be mentioned two mansions, *Llechdwyny* and *Muddlescwm*.

*Llechdwyny* (Donne's Refuge).—*Llechdwyny* is one of the few mansions marked in Speed's map of Carmarthenshire in 1610. The ruins of this mansion are on an eminence which overlooks Kidwelly, and about two miles to the north-east of the town. The walls that still remain show that it was an oblong building, the length extending from south to north. It is 55 yards long by 36 yards wide, and is now occupied by an orchard. At the north-east angle a round tower may still be traced, and there is a corresponding projection at the south-east angle, where probably another round tower stood. Adjoining the mansion on the east is a fruit garden which covers 2 acres, and which is inclosed by a wall 9 ft. high and 2 ft. thick. It is lined throughout with 4 in. red brick-work. On the east side there is a terrace extending from the north to the south wall, and at each end of the terrace there was a round tower corresponding to those at the north-west and south-west angles of the mansion proper. The garden towers



would command a magnificent view of the Vale of Towy on one side, and of Kidwelly and the sea on the other.

*Muddlescwm* (Middlescombe).—Beyond the ruined walls which rise only a few feet from the ground, but which still give an accurate idea of the proportions of the mansion, nothing remains except the granary, some outhouses, and the farmhouse, still known as Muddlescwm, which formerly was the attendant's hall of the mansion, and which remains intact. The area covered by the mansion is 33 yards by 25 yards. The thickness of the walls is 2 ft. 2 in. The principal entrance is at the south-west angle, which is now blocked by an out-building. There is another entrance at the north-east angle which seems to have been surmounted by a turret. The foundations of the ground chambers are still traceable. Adjoining the north wall of the mansion is the fruit garden, measuring 28 yards square, and surrounded by a wall built of red brick throughout on a stone foundation. The thickness of the wall is 21 ins., and the height 9 ft. The granary is to the south of the principal entrance of the mansion, and the precincts still preserve the pebble pavement. The approach is also pitched, as well as a way opposite the mouth of the outer entrance, which leads through the middle of the field to the supposed site of Llanfihangel Chapel.

These two mansions have been rendered historic by reason of the celebrated families that resided in them. The pedigrees of these families, between which there was much inter-marrying, are given by Mr. George T. Clark in his 'Genealogies of Morgan [Margam] and Glamorgan,' thus :

' Harry of Bryncoch, married 1st Margaret, daughter of William Thomas, of Oldcastle ; 2nd Elizabeth, daughter of Morgan Dun of Kidwelly (p. 103).

' Morgan Gwyn, m. Mary dr. of Howel Jenkin-ychan of Kidwelly, and had 1 David, 2 John, 3 Owen Gwyn, of the Old Bailey had (a) Elizabeth, (b) Ann : 4 Maude, who married William David Meredith of Kidwelly (p. 207).

' Morgan ap Ievan Gwyn m. Margaret dr. of Howel ap Jenkin Vychan of Kidwelly, and had 1 Owen Gwyn, 2 David, 3 Maud m. William ap David ap Meredith of Kidwelly (p. 208).

' Maud (daughter of Sir Robert Vaughan of Tretower) m. Henry Dunn of Kidwelly (p. 239).

' Sir Thomas Morgan of Langstone and Pencoyd in Llanmartin, 1482—Issue 1 Sir William, 2 John, whence Morgan of Caerleon, 3 Henry, 4 Philip, whence—

*Morgan of Kidwelly* (p. 320).

' Philip Morgan of Kidwelly, fourth son of Sir Thomas of Pencoyd, married a daughter of Sir Rhys ap Thomas, and had 1 William Morgan, who had 2 Henry Morgan, father of 3 Walter Morgan (p. 325).

' *Morgan of Muddlescombe*.—Treherne Morgan of Muddlescombe, High Steward of the Commote of Kidwelly and of Pembroke : he built the house of Llandilo-Abercowyn ; m. Jenet dr. and co-h. of Harry Dwn of Picton. Issue—1 Harry, 2 Owen, 3 Anthony (whence a branch), 4 Elizabeth, 5 Sysly, 6 Ann, 7 Catherine.

' Harry Morgan of Muddlescombe m. Margaret dr. of Henry Wogan. Issue—1 William, 2 John, 3 Treherne, 4 Thomas, 5 Ellen, 6 Catherine, 7 Ann.

' William Morgan of Muddlescombe m. Catherine dr. of William Thomas of Llangathen. Issue—1 Henry, 2 Thomas (1596), 3 Mary, 4 Liws, 5 Blanche.

' Henry Morgan m. Elizabeth dr. of Morris Rhys ap Morris ap Owain ap Gryffith ap Nicholas of Llechdonni. Issue—1 Mary co-h. m. Anthony son of Sir Edward Mansel of Margam. 2 Catherine (1596) m. Francis, son of Sir Edward Mansel, and had (a) Walter, (b) Anthony, (c) Francis, (d) Richard, (e) John, (f) Mary, (g) Jenet.'

Anterior to the beginning of the 15th century Llechdwnny belonged to a family of the name of Gwyn-

Lloide. At this time the last named family was summarily deprived of the patrimony through outlawry, and the property was bestowed on the Donne family, as the extract given below will show—

‘Grant for life to the king’s esquire John Donne, of all lands, late of Griffin ap Walter ap Ievan in the commots of Kedewelly and Carnewalthan [Carnwyllion], and a mansion with all enclosed demesnes round it, late of William Gwyn ap Rees Lloide in the commot of Kidewelly, forfeited to the king on account of their rebellion, to the value of 20 marks yearly, so that he answer for any surplus and stay in person armed with one archer in his company during the rebellion in South Wales on the safe-custody of the Castle of Kedewelly, and the country adjacent, without wages or reward.’—*Patent Rolls*, 5 *Henry IV.*, Dec. 1, 1403.

The Donne family, said to have descended from Meurig, prince of Dyfed, seems to have inter-married also with the family of Rees of Kilymaenllwyd, whose original residence is said to have been Llechdwyny. At one period the last-named family bore the name of Bowen, or ab Bowen, and is supposed to have descended from Owen, the second son of Gryffith ap Nicholas of Dynevor, who was uncle to Sir Rhys ap Thomas, the celebrated Captain of South Wales.\*

The following genealogical table, communicated by Mr. G. R. Brigstocke, Ryde, gives a later succession of the Llechdwyny family :—

‘Rees Bowen, of Llechdwyny, married Catherine, daughter of John, son of Henry Morgan, of Muddlescwm.

‘Morris Bowen, do. 1615, m. Maud, dr. of Sir John Wgan, of Bwlston, Pems.

‘Mary, dr. of Morris Bowen, do., m. John Brigstocke, who purchased Llechdwyny from his father-in-law.

\* ‘Burke’s Visitation of Seats and Arms, 1852,’ Vol. II.

'Owen Brigstocke, do. 1657, m. Jane, dr. of Sir Wm. Vaughan, Torycoed, Llangendeirne.

'William Brigstocke, do. 1713, m. Winifred, dr. of Robert Byrt, Llwyndyr, Cardiganshire.

'Owen Brigstocke, do. 1746, m. Anne, dr. of Dr. Edward Browne, Northfleet.

'William Brigstocke, do. 1751, m. Mary, dr. of Francis Lloyd, Glyn, Llangendeirne.

'Owen Brigstocke, do. 1778, m. Anne, dr. of John Williams, Bwlchygynt, Mydrim.

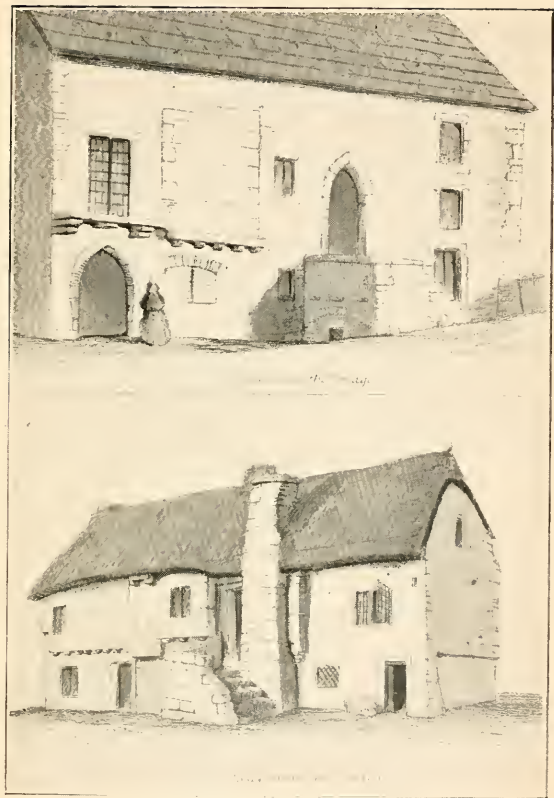
'William Owen Brigstocke, do. 1831, m. Anne, dr. of Edward Probyn, Newland, Gloucester.

'William Owen Brigstocke, do. 1861, s.p.

'Rev. John Brigstocke, do. 1858, m. Catherine Mary, dr. of Sir William Champion de Crespigny, Bart.'

It will have been observed that the original name of the Muddlescwm family was Morgan, its patronymic being exchanged by marriage at the end of the 16th century for that of Mansel (see page 84). A record kept in the parish register states that Francis Mansel was created baronet on the 14th day of January, 1621.

*Domestic Flemish Architecture.*—Several good specimens of this quaint architecture are preserved in some of the dwelling houses in the town. Its chief features are the semi-detached chimney shafts which are built against the side of the house, and the outside stair-case. Illustrations of two of these are given.



OLD HOUSES IN KIDWELLY.



## LOCAL CELEBRITIES.

**K**IDWELLY may well be proud of the production of a goodly number of men who from time to time have distinguished themselves in court circles, diplomacy, literature, and administrative capacity. Among these may be mentioned the following:—

*Master Walter Hogas* of Kidwelly, parson of the Church of Rostyen, was nominated attorney for one year, for the purpose of going beyond the seas with the king.\*

*William Wrench of Kidwelly* was appointed by Letters Patent deputy, during pleasure, to the office of chief butler in the port of Southampton.†

*Geoffrey Kydwelly* was appointed, during pleasure, surveyor of all the king's castles, lordships, manors, and lands, and the subsidy, ulnage, and forfeiture of cloth, in the counties of Somerset, Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall, and receiver of the same ; rendering his account yearly at the exchequer, with authority to enquire into the value of the premises, and certify thereon to the king and council.‡

*Maurice Kydwelly* was appointed to a similar office in the counties of Hereford, Gloucester, Worcester, Wilts, Oxford, and Berks, and the town of Bristol.§

*Philip Morgan, Kydwelly*, received an appointment for life as the king's attorney-general in all the king's

\* 'Patent Rolls,' 3 Edward III., May 20, 1329.

† 'Patent Rolls,' 5 Edward III., Feb. 23, 1331.

‡ 'Patent Rolls,' 12 Edward IV., Aug. 4, 1472.

§ *Ibid.*

courts of record in England and Wales, receiving the accustomed fees, with power of appointing clerks and officers under him.\* He was also appointed in the succeeding reign, deputy of the king's kinsman Francis, Lord Lovell, chief butler of England, in the port of Pole, and ports and places adjacent, receiving the accustomed fees.† Tradition also associates this local worthy with the early stages of the plot originated in an interview, at Brecon, during the progress of the Wars of the Roses between John Morton, bishop of Ely, and Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, which had for its object the reconciliation of the Houses of York and Lancaster, by inviting Henry, earl of Richmond—the future Henry VII.—to accept the Crown of England, on condition that he marry Elizabeth of York; and it is stated that Philip Morgan was one of the messengers sent in 1483 to Henry, then in honourable custody in Brittany, with the details of the plot.

In a life of Henry VII. submitted for review to the late Mr. James Routledge, an author and man of letters, who was by marriage closely connected with Kidwelly, occurs this passage:—‘Henry determined to land in this district. He had received messages from one Morgan of Kidwelly, a lawyer, that Rhys ap Thomas, a valiant captain of South Wales, and another named Sir John Savage, were ready to take his part; and he had every reason to believe that his uncle Jasper Tudor, on his re-appearance in that country, would be at once greeted as Earl of Pembroke, notwithstanding his attainder.’

\* ‘Patent Rolls,’ Edward V., May 28, 1483.

† *Ibid.*, 1 Richard III., March 5, 1484.



This information is communicated by the late reviewer's widow. The authorship of the history alluded to is not given, but the statement is probably correct, seeing that Philip Morgan was not only important and influential in affairs pertaining to the accession of Henry VII., but was also married to a daughter of Sir Rhys ap Thomas (see page 84).

Morgan's connection with the plot at this stage is, moreover, corroborated by the following abstract from 'Hall's Chronicle,' edit. 1809, p. 410 :—

'But in the meane season there came to the Earle (Richmond) a more joyfuller message from Morgan Kydwelly learned in the temporall lawe whiche declared that Ryce ap Thomas, a man of no less valyauntnes than actyuitee, and John Savage, an approved captayne woulde, with all their power be partakers of his quarell.'

This is also repeated verbatim by 'Holinshed Chronicle,' Vol. III., p. 434. (Edit. 1808) *sub anno* 1485.

*Sir Harry [Morgan] of Kidwelly*, a celebrated litterateur who flourished between 1400 and 1430 : probably Harry Morgan of Muddlescombe (see p. 84).

*Ieuan Deulwyn*, a Welsh bard of remarkable genius, was a native of Kidwelly, resident at Pendewlyn within the parish. The name *Dillwyn* is supposed to have derived from him.\* He flourished between 1450 and 1490. Although generally distinguished by his poetical effusions and attainments, he was a man of many parts, and of a highly cultured mind. By virtue of a commission of Edward IV., Aug. 12, 1460, he was one of the the 'foure cheyffest men of skylle within the provynce

\* *Iolo MSS.*, p. 332, Note 2.

of Sowth Wallys,' who were cited to Pembroke Castle to decide 'the progenie and descent of the honourable name of the Herberts,' Earls of Pembroke. Having scrutinized, among other 'auncyent wrytyngs' the documents of Margam Abbey and Ystrad Fflur [Strata Florida], and many soche other Bookys and Warrantes of Awthoryty,' the commissioners made their return to the king in four languages—Latin, Welsh, French, and English.\* The other commissioners were—Howell, the son of David, the son of Ievan, the son of Rhys; Howell Surdwall; Ievan Brechfa.† Ieuan Deulwyn was a bard of the chair of Glamorgan. In 1470 he was a disciple of Meredydd ap Rhosser in that chair, and in 1480 he was himself the president of the chair, and Iorwerth Fynglwyd, Lewys Morganwg, and Harri Hir, his disciples.‡ Seven of Deulwyn's poems are published in '*Gorchestion Beirdd Cymru*,' pp. 127—142. '*Marwnad Syr Rhisiart Herbert, a las yn y maes ym Mambri*'—'An Elegy to Sir Richard Herbert, who fell on the field of Banbury'—is one of the published poems, selections from which are here given in the original—

'Y warr gronn orau o grêd,  
Herbert hîr, byrr y torred;  
Mae'r oes oll, yn marw os art,  
Mis yw'r oes, am Syr Risiart.  
O brau Duw a wnaeth ynn brad ni  
Mwya unbrad, fu' Mambri:  
Mal o Grist, ymmil y Grôg,  
Y mae f'oechwedl, am Farchog.

\* '*Hanes Llenyddiaeth Gymreig*, 1300—1650,' by R. J. Prys (Gweirydd ap Rhys), p. 249.

† '*Fenton's Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire*,' p. 340.

‡ '*Dr. John Jones's History of Wales*,' pp. 225.

Maddau un, ym oedd anodd,  
 Na bai yn fyw, neb un fodd ;  
 Ni byddent, Ddwywent, yn ddig  
 Bettai obaith, bod tebyg.'

*Gorchestion Beirdd Cymru*, p. 135.

Ieuan Deulwyn is included by Tudur Aled in the same category with Nanmor and Dafydd ap Edmwnnt, thus :—

' Bwrw Dafydd, gelfydd dann gôr,  
 Bwrw ddoe'n un Meistr, Bardd Nanmor ;  
 Bwrw Deulwyn y bardd olaf  
 Blodeu Cerdd, ba wlad y caf ?  
 Tair awen, oedd i'r Triwŷr,  
 A fai lês i fil a wŷr.'

*Gorchestion Beirdd Cymru*, p. 249.

*Sir John Yarford*, Lord Mayor of London in the civic year 1519—1520, is represented in 'Mund's Chronicle' (1611) to have been a mercer, and a son of William Yarford of Kidwelly.

*Ieuan Tew Ieuanc*. Another eminent bard of Kidwelly who flourished from 1560 to 1590. He wrote a poem in 1590 to Dr. William Morgan, bishop of St. Asaph, who translated the Bible into the Welsh language.\* This is a specimen of Ieuan Tew Ieuanc's verse and sentiments—

' A gair Duw yn egored aeth,  
 Yn dêg o'i enedigaeth ;  
 Duw a enynodd dawn unwaith  
 Doctor anhepcor o'n hiaith,  
 Yn dêg o niwl a'n dug ni,  
 Ac i lan y goleuni ;

\* 'Hughes's Life and Times of Bishop William Morgan,' pp. 150, 151.

Mae Doctor a rhagoriaeth,  
Morgan wych, mab Mair, a'i gwnaeth ;  
Blaenor, gynghor y gangell,  
Bugail yw heb ei well.'

\* \* \*

' Piau helpu o'r pulpud,  
Llyna faeth lle ni fethodd,  
Llygad Llanrhaead llawn rhodd ;  
Ffirwythder iëithoedd ffraeth draethai  
Ffynon heb na thro na thrai.'

\* \* \*

' Doctor i gael rhagor rodd  
Yw y gwr a'i hagogrodd ;  
Esgob a fydd ddydd a ddaw.'

*John Davies of Kidwelly* translated 'A History of the Caribby Islands,' 2 vols., in 1666. In 1671 he also translated from the French 'A Treatise on Ceremonies of the vacant see, or a True Relation of what passes at Rome upon the Pope's death ; with the Proceedings in the Conclave, for the election of a new Pope ; according to the Constitutions and Ceremonials. As also the Coronation and Cavalcade.'

*John Griffith, B.D.*, was born at Kidwelly on Jan. 9, 1772. He was the son of a Welsh yeoman, educated at the Grammar School, Carmarthen. From here he proceeded to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he obtained a scholarship and several college prizes in each year of his residence. He graduated B.A. in 1795 First Senior Optime ; M.A. in 1798 ; B.D. in 1805, having been elected Fellow of his College. On reference to the Tripos List it will be seen that John Griffith is the only Honour man of the College in his year, Emmanuel being

an easy-going fashionable College, where undergraduates were an idle set of well-to-do young gentlemen. He was appointed minor canon of Ely in 1890, became later epistler and auditor, and also bishop's surrogate for wills, as well as marriage licenses. He was preferred to the benefice of St. Mary's, Ely, which he held until 1827, when he accepted the perpetual curacy of Stuntney, which he held until his decease. He was also chaplain of the Bishop's Gaol, and sinecure rector of Fulbourne. He had sprung, as has been seen, from a comparatively humble origin, and he made the best of his opportunities. He knew the value of money, and his responsibility as trustee thereof. He dowered many connections, unknown to him, who had to be sought out from the fastnesses of the Welsh mountains and the antipodes. In his will he left £1000 to found a charity 'for two widows, or two spinsters, or a widow and a spinster, born in the borough or parish of Kidwelly; females of irreproachable character, with a preference always in their choice of such as may have seen better days, and shall have been reduced in their circumstances through unavoidable misfortune.' The trustees appointed under the will are the vicars for the time being of Kidwelly, St. Ishmael, and Llandefeilog.

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Kidwelly has also given birth to the following public men :—

*Thomas Job*, a Calvinistic Methodist minister of Conwil, was born at Rogerlay, Kidwelly, in 1825. He was educated at a school at Carmarthen kept by a David

Aaron, and afterwards became a pupil of Archdeacon Williams's school in the same town. In 1847 he went to Trevecca College, and was ordained at Carmarthen in 1855. He became *Ysgrifenydd y Cyfarfod Misol* in 1869, an office to which he was re-appointed in 1871. In 1873 he was elected *Llywydd Cymanfa Ddirwestol Gwent a Morganwg*. In 1897 he accepted the title of D.D. from Gale University, U.S.A.

*William Rees*, sometime curate of Ystradgynlais, received his rudimentary training at the National School, Kidwelly. From here he went to Carmarthen Grammar School, and then to Lampeter Grammar School. He graduated B.A. at St. David's College, Lampeter, in 1871, and was ordained deacon in the same year.

*John Rees*, vicar of Tylorstown, Glamorgan, educated at the National School, Kidwelly, and Carmarthen and Cirencester Grammar Schools. He took his certificate in Divinity at Queen's College, Birmingham, in 1871. Ordained deacon 1872, priest 1877, curate of Gelligaer 1872-8, curate of Ystradyfodwg 1879-86.

*Richard Richard*, Great Western Railway agent at Glasgow, received his early training at the National School, Kidwelly. He was appointed in succession G.W.R. station master at Lydney, Bridgend, and Cardiff, at which latter place he also became superintendent of the goods department.

*John Rees*, chief accountant of the Salvation Army, was born at Colman Farm, and was a pupil of the Castle School, Kidwelly.

*John Williams*, medical practitioner at Ferndale, Glamorgan, received his primary education at the National

School, Kidwelly, of which he became a pupil teacher, and his secondary education at the Grammar School, Carmarthen. He entered St. David's College, Lampeter, in 1884, where he gained first class (ordinary) at responses, and first class (honours) in science at moderations. He migrated to the University of Edinburgh in 1886, where in due course he obtained the diplomas M.B., C.M.

*David Thomas Griffiths*, vicar of Llantrisant, was educated at the Grammar School, Carmarthen, and University College, Aberystwyth. In 1888 he was elected to an exhibition of £100 per annum, tenable for 3 years at Jesus College, Oxford. He took first class at moderations in 1890 in the Honour School of Mathematics, being the first student of Jesus College who had taken this first class for ten years, only six others in the whole University having done so in this year. He graduated B.A. first class Mathematical Honours in 1892, and took his M.A. in 1895. He became curate of St. Peter's, Carmarthen, in 1893; senior Mathematical Master of Denstone College, 1897; rector of Bagendon, Glos., 1899; rector of Llandow, and vicar of Colwinstone, Glam., 1900.

*John Howell Knight Griffiths*, medical practitioner at Fulham, London. Educated at the Grammar School, Carmarthen, and University College, Aberystwyth, whence he proceeded to Edinburgh University. Here he took his M.B., C.M., in 1895, and M.D. in 1897. He also underwent a course of training at Charing Cross Hospital.

*Thomas Roberts Griffiths*, medical practitioner at Kid-



welly, was educated at Llandoverly School, 1886—9, whence he proceeded to University College, London, where he qualified in 1900 M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*William Griffiths Williams*, rector of Peterston-super-Ely. Educated at the Castle School, Kidwelly (of which he became pupil teacher), and privately. He entered St. David's College, Lampeter, in 1893. Graduated B.A. (2nd class) in 1896. He has also kept his terms at Oxford. Ordained deacon 1896, priest 1897. Curate of Aberavon 1896—1900; St. Mary's, Reading, 1900; Headington, Oxon., 1901; and Buckhurst Hill, Essex, 1901—3.

*Thomas Charles Evans*, curate of Cwmllynfell, Glamorgan. Educated at the Castle School, Kidwelly, Park-y-Velvet Academy, 1884, Presbyterian College, Carmarthen, 1886. Having served two English pastorates in the Presbyterian connexion, he joined the communion of the Church of England. Ordained deacon 1900, priest 1901, by the bishop of Llandaff. He was Crawley's prizeman at his priest's examination.

*William James Gravell*, chaplain of St. Michael's College, Llandaff. He received his early training at the National School, Kidwelly. His education was continued at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Carmarthen, in 1891, and Oswestry Grammar School, 1892—6. He entered St. David's College, Lampeter, 1896. Here he took first class (Classical Honours) at moderations, and again first class (Classical Honours) at his finals, becoming senior scholar of his College, 1898—9. He was appointed assistant master of Edgbaston Preparatory School in 1899—01. Classical master of St. David's



College School, Lampeter, in 1901—5. He received deacon's orders in 1903, and was ordained priest in 1904. Chaplain of St. David's College, Lampeter, 1903—4. Chaplain of St. Michael's College, Aberdare, 1906.

*Henry John Thomas*, a solicitor practising in Cardiff, received his early education at the National School, Kidwelly.

*George Rogers Davies*, minister of Bryn Seion Baptist Chapel, Upper Cwmtwrch, Glamorgan, Educated at the Castle School, Kidwelly, whence he proceeded to the Old College School, Carmarthen, and University College, Cardiff. He was ordained in 1903.

*John Beynon*, minister of Hermon C.M. chapel, Skewen. After receiving his primary education at the National School and Mountain School, Kidwelly, he continued his education at the Old College School, Carmarthen, and Collegiate School, Pontypridd. He entered Cardiff University College in 1901; Trevecca College in 1903. He was ordained in 1907.

## LOCAL NONCONFORMIST CHAPELS.

**C***APEL Sul* (Independent, originally Presbyterian) was erected in 1785 on a site granted by a certain David Jones, of Pistyllgwyn, under a lease for a term of 999 years, at the nominal rent of one shilling a year. The interior was renovated in 1873, and again in 1905.

## LIST OF MINISTERS.

David Davies	..	..	..	..	—
John Abel	..	..	..	..	1794
David Jones	..	..	..	..	1824
William Castellau Jenkins	..	..	..	..	1867

*Morfa Chapel* (Calvinistic Methodist) was built in 1830 on a site granted by the Municipal Corporation of Kidwelly under a lease for a term of 999 years, at the annual rent of 5/-. The present chapel took the place of a previous building where the Calvinistic Methodists had worshipped since the year 1786. Morfa Chapel was re-built and enlarged in 1907.

## LIST OF MINISTERS.

David Bowen	..	..	..	..	1832—52
David Griffiths	..	..	..	..	1857
John Evans	..	..	..	..	1860
Thomas Lloyd	..	..	..	..	1869
David Geler Owen	..	..	..	..	1871
William Peregrine Jones	..	..	..	..	1889
William Whitlocke Lewis	..	..	..	..	1906

*Bethesda Chapel* (Welsh Wesleyan) was built in 1816 on land granted by Earl Cawdor and the Municipal Corporation of Kidwelly under concurrent leases for a

term of 999 years, at the annual rents of 2/6. It was re-built in 1832 and renovated in 1895.

## LIST OF MINISTERS.

(No return.)

*Siloam Chapel* (Baptist) was erected in 1821. It was rebuilt in 1892.

## LIST OF MINISTERS.

John Reynolds	..	..	1834	} Joint
George Reynolds	..	..	1860	
John Reynolds	..	..	1861	
Hugh Robert Jones	..	..	1902	

*Horeb Chapel* (Calvinistic Methodist) was built in 1843 on land granted by the Municipal Corporation of Kidwelly under a lease for a term of 999 years, at the nominal rent of one shilling a year. It was enlarged in 1873, when interior fittings were added.

## LIST OF MINISTERS.

Thomas Lloyd	..	..	..	1869
David Geler Owen	..	..	..	1871

*English Wesleyan Chapel.* This was built and presented to the Wesleyan Conference by the late Mr. Jacob Chivers in 1866.

## LIST OF RESIDENT MINISTERS.

Joseph Wigham	..	..	..	1866
Nehemiah Smith	..	..	..	1867—8
Jabez Chambers	..	..	..	1869—71
Joseph Shrimpton	..	..	..	1872—4
Samuel W. Beard	..	..	..	1875

## INDUSTRIES OF KIDWELLY.

**C**LOTH *Manufacture*.—There seems little doubt that in the 14th century cloth-making and fulling was a considerable industry at Kidwelly. Among the issues of the manor accounted for by the Receiver of the Duchy of Lancaster in the year 1369—70 (see page 28), 13/4 was received for ‘the farm of the Fulling Mill,’ and a similar amount is also accounted for as rent for ‘the fulling Mill called Bordeculle.’ In the 12th century it is known that the population of the town and district of Kidwelly consisted of the French [Normans], English, and Flemings (see Appendix A), seemingly to the exclusion of the Welsh. The Flemish settlers in this country are accredited with having introduced the manufacture of worsted and woollen fabrics and the art of dyeing.\* While, therefore, the Norman-French and English would constitute themselves the guardians of the district, it is probable that the industrial occupation among the community devolved on the Flemings, and that they selected the industry for which they had the greatest aptitude.

*Marine Commerce*.—Reference has already been made to the shipping industry of the town (see pp. 60, 61). That Kidwelly was, at an early period, of some importance as a sea-faring town there is little doubt, as the following records testify —

In 1229 permission to trade with Gascony was given

\* ‘Hewlett’s Post Norman Britain,’ p. 15.

by patent of Henry III. 'to Robertus de Cadewely, magister navis'—Robert of Kidwelly, ship-master.\*

The commodities which appear chiefly to have constituted the early marine commerce of the town were corn and general provisions for the victualling of the garrison as shown by this record—

'Safe-conduct until Michaelmas for Eudo-la-Zusche, conveying by water, corn and other victuals by his own sailors from Bridgewater, Totnes and Dartmouth, to Pembroke, Kaermerdyn, Kedewelly, and Sweyneseye, for the support of those persons who are there on the king's expedition against Llewellyn son of Griffin, and his accomplices in rebellion, the said sailors to bring with them in going and returning, letters patent of the said Eudo as to the said victuals, and the persons to whom they are to be conveyed, and also those persons to whom they have been delivered or sold: and the said corn and victuals by no means to be converted to the support of the said rebels.'—*'Pat. Rolls,' 5 Edward I., Feb., 1277.*

The nature of the cargoes is stated in the following record:—

'License for John Benet and Thomas Davy, burgesses of Llanstephan, to buy 100 quarters of wheat, 100 quarters of barley and salt, 100 quarters of beans and peas, 100 quarters of malt and rye, 60 quarters of oat flour, 60 tuns of wine, ale, honey, and cider, and fish, and herrings, in England; to take the same to Kedewely and Llanstephan for the victualling and garnishing of those towns, and the king's lieges there, so that they send into chancery from time to time letters testimonial of the delivery of the same under the common seal or seals of the good men of those towns.'—*'Pat. Rolls,' 6 Henry IV., Jan. 23, 1405.*

The extent of the shipping industry here at the beginning of the 15th century may be gathered from this reference:—'Protection for one year for the bur-

\* *'Pat. Rolls,' Henry III., 1229.*

gesses, merchants, and mariners of Kedewelly, going to England, Aquitaine, and Ireland to trade, and for their men, ships, goods, and merchandise.\*

At the time, however, when Camden published his 'Britannia' (1586), the harbour is stated to have been almost choked up with sand-banks.†

In more modern times the local shipping was again materially developed by Thomas Kymer, a gentleman who appears to have come here from Pembroke about the year 1766. This capitalist built small docks at Kidwelly, and constructed a short canal to the Gwendraeth Valley. The old minute book of the corporation already referred to, as well as the registers of the parish church, bear testimony to a revival of local shipping in the 18th century. The former records the admission to the Burgess Roll of a large proportion of mariners, while the latter contain entries of the burial of many sailors. There were at least three quays here where ships were laden and unladen. Of these one only still exists; the other two, of which there is hardly a trace left, were called the 'Ladies' (Kymer) quay,' which was adjacent to the 15th century bridge that spans Gwendraeth Fach, and 'Coney quay' on the right bank of Gwendraeth Fawr, above the Commissioner's bridge, which was built at a later date (1842). Among the minutes of the Hall Day, held in the Guildhall of the borough June 9, 1794, appears the following order in reference to the construction of the latter quay:—

\* 'Pat. Rolls' 4 Henry IV. [Carmarthen], Sep. 28, 1404.

† 'Camden's Britannia,' p. 504.

' Upon the petition of John Bishton of Thilsall in the county of Salop, Esqr., Samuel Botham of Tong, in the same county, and Charles Phillips of the town of Llanelly, gentlemen, for a grant of a spot of ground for constructing a Quay and other buildings upon. It is ordered that the said John Bishton, Samuel Botham, and Charles Phillips have a grant of a certain spot of ground under Coney Hill in the parish of St. Mary, Kidwelly, in the tenure and occupation of John Hall, yeoman, from the river Gwendraeth Vawr 177 ft. in breadth up to the lodge of Herbert Ball, Esqr., leaving a passage of 8 ft. wide for cattle to pass and re-pass from one common to the other, for the term of 42 years : paying yearly to the corporation the sum of £2 2 0.'

*Ship-building* also was carried on at Kidwelly in the same period, for the records of the corporation at the end of the 18th century show that *ship-wrights* and *carpenters* were included among the qualified burgesses of the borough. Moreover, a ship-building yard is known to have stood on the site now occupied by the English Wesleyan Chapel. It is said that the last ship built here, named 'The Sarah Jane,' 100 ton, was a brig which belonged to a Capt. Thomas, and that when the vessel was launched, a cannon which was fired lurched and killed one man. During the French revolution a number of small traders, several of whom were from Kidwelly, sailed under convoy to different foreign ports, and were captured, together with their vessels, by the French. The above-mentioned Capt. Thomas and his son are said to have been detained as prisoners in French territory for 7 or 8 years. The

following minute of the Hall Day held Aug. 3, 1781, also provides an instance of the capture by the French of a Kidwelly mariner at this time of general unrest :— ‘ John Britton of Northam, in the county of Devon, Mariner, having been admitted a burgess of this borough (Kidwelly) and sworn in on the 20th day of July, 1772, and he having this day personally appeared in this court, informed the council that he lost his certificate of being a burgess, *on being lately taken by the French*. It is therefore ordered that the Town Clerk do make out a new certificate for the said John Britton.’

The canal constructed by Thomas Kymer was intended to convey coal from the anthracite pits in Gwendraeth Valley to Kidwelly harbour. The canal is now disused, but a mineral railway, parallel with its bed, extends from the Gwendraeth Valley coal pits to the harbour, as well as along the canal extension to Burry Port. A large number of miners employed in these pits reside at Kidwelly, and are daily conveyed by the railway back and fore to their employment. The quantity of coal exported from Kidwelly now is insignificant, as most of it is taken to Burry Port and Swansea for shipment.

*Tin-plate Manufacture.*—This industry was established at Kidwelly prior to 1781, for in that year the Municipal Corporation of Kidwelly granted a renewal of the lease of the Tinmills, as appears from the following minute of the proceedings of the corporation at a Hall Day held on the ninth day of May, 1781 :— ‘ Executed a renewed Lease to Leonard Bilston Gwyn, Esq., of the Tinmills, at which time he paid the sum



of five guineas into the hands of Mr. John Stephens, the Chamberlain, for such renewal.' A tablet still preserved in the wall at the end of the office of the present Tinworks bears this inscription :—' These tinworks, the oldest in the kingdom were re-built by Haselwood, Hathaway and Perkins, Anno Dom. 1801.' In one particular, however, the accuracy of this statement is called in question, as Pontypool is acknowledged to have actually been first in the field in the manufacture of tin-plates. Originally the smelting was done at the Old Forge already referred to, but the mills appear to have always stood on the site which has continuously been occupied by the concerns of successive tin-plate companies down to the present time. The above firm relinquished the proprietorship in favour of a Mr. Vaughan, who was succeeded by a Mr. Hay. The works was purchased by Henry Reed Downman, who having worked it for some years, failed, and retired to Carmarthen about the year 1845. After a period of idleness, Messrs. Ricketts and James repaired the two water-wheels with a view of re-starting the works, but their good intentions do not appear to have proceeded beyond repairing the machinery. One mill was again put into operation, and a Puddling and Balling Forge was erected by Hugh Downman, a brother of the above-mentioned Henry Reed Downman. This gentleman, in order to avoid failure, called in a partner of the name of Briggs. The old forge had now fallen into disuse. Under this firm, known as Messrs Downman and Briggs, one water-mill was kept working for several years. This company also in their turn shared the unhappy experiences of

their predecessors, and went into liquidation. The works at this time was taken over by Mr. Crawshay Bailey (with whom Downman was connected by marriage), and was kept idle for several years. Mr. Jacob Chivers, who was interested in a tin-works in Spain, at length appeared on the scene, and in 1858 bought the works from Mr. Crawshay Bailey. Down to this time the machinery had been propelled by water power. Mr. Jacob Chivers was joined by Mr. Thomas Bright as a working partner, and it was under the auspices of this firm that the first steam engine was put up at Kidwelly. The old Puddling and Baling Furnaces were now augmented with a charcoal forge, with hollow fires and a helve hammer, and two mills were added to the existing one. With a view of extending the building, Mr. Jacob Chivers purchased the reversion of the lease of the property on which the works stood from the Municipal Corporation of Kidwelly. The firm now became known as that of 'Messrs. Chivers and Son.' A coke forge, with a steam hammer, was substituted for that of charcoal, and two mills were added, so that there were now altogether five mills. Mr. Jacob Chivers withdrew, and the management devolved on Mr. Thomas Chivers, his son, who constructed six new mills. In 1888 the works was purchased by the 'Gwendraeth Tin-plate Co., Ltd.' It exchanged hands again in 1899, when it was bought by the 'Kidwelly Iron, Sheet, and Tin-plate Co., Ltd.' In 1900 the old works, comprising five mills, was demolished, and the company went into voluntary liquidation in 1901. In 1904 the new works became the property of the 'Kidwelly Tin-plate Co.,

Ltd.' There are, at the present time, seven excellent mills in constant operation, which, together with the dependent departments, possess the most modern appliances. With Col. Wright as chairman, and Mr. John Thomas as managing director, it is generally agreed that the works has never been so flourishing. It affords employment to 350 hands.

*Lime-kilns.*—Minutes of the Corporation bear record to the establishment of lime-burning on Mynyddygarreg in the latter part of the 18th century. At a Hall Day, Sept. 19, 1785, the following order was made:—‘That a lease be granted to Walter Mansell and Edward King, of a certain part of Mynyddygarreg, for erecting a Lime-kiln, for the term of three lives, at the yearly rent of one shilling, to be paid the Chamberlain for the time being, yearly—the parties not to sell any lime.’

At another Hall Day, May 31, 1790, there is also this reference—‘A Lease is granted to Herbert Lloyd, his heirs and assigns, for the term of three lives, of a portion of Mynyddygarreg, whereon to erect a Lime-kiln.’ At later dates more extensive lime-kilns were constructed by Mr. Owen Bowen, of London, and the late Mr. Alexander Young. All the kilns have now been closed.

*Silica-brick Manufacture.*—The mineral wealth of Mynyddygarreg has attracted several capitalists, who, from time to time have been engaged in converting its silica stones into fire-bricks and sand. The credit of being the pioneer in this industry is given to William Edwards, of Swansea, who is said to have constructed the first local brick-works in the year 1858. He was

followed by Messrs. Frederick and Jenner, who continued his business. In 1865 Messrs. Redford and Harris built a second brick-works, and were succeeded by Messrs. H. and H. E. Smart. A third was built by the late Alderman Stephens, while a fourth was erected by the late Mr. Alexander Young. The last three are still at work, and turn out a considerable quantity of bricks and prepared sand, which are consigned to large industrial centres at home and abroad.

APPENDIX.



## APPENDIX A.

DUGDALE'S MONASTICON ANGLICANUM. VOL. IV.,  
PP. 64, 65. NUM. I.

*Translation.*

' To all sons of holy mother, the church, who see or hear these present letters : David, by Divine permission Bishop of St. Davids, and the Chapter of the same place, greeting. Know ye that we have inspected, and diligently examined divers muniments and writings, and also confirmations touching the Abbey of Shyreburne, and the priory of Cadwelle, not cancelled, not abolished, not in any part thereof corrupted, from word to word, in form following :—

' In the name of the Lord, Amen., in the one thousand three hundred and first year of the same on the fifteenth day of the month of October in the fifteenth indiction, in the eighth year of the Pontificate of the Most Holy Father and Lord, the Lord Boniface, by Divine Providence, Pope, in presence of my notary within written, and of the witnesses underwritten for this specially called ; the religious man Sir Geoffrey de Coker, Prior of Cadweli, in the diocese of St. Davids, in the Church of St. Paul, London, put in, in writing, and read a certain gift and grant made by the lord Roger, by the grace of God at one time Bishop of Salisbury, to the Church of the Blessed Mary of Shereburne, and to Turstan, Prior of the said church, and to his successors regularly succeeding him, according to the form and tenor contained in the text of the foundation of the Church of the Blessed Mary of Shyreburn, of which gift such is the tenor.

' In the name of the Holy and undivided Trinity ; I, Roger, by the grace of God, Bishop of Salisbury, for the health and safety of my lord Henry the King, and Matilda the Queen, and of their sons, with their consent, and for the health of my soul, and of my parents, and of my ancestors, Do give to the Holy Church of Shyrborn, and to Turstan the Prior (sic) and to his successors regularly succeeding him, *One Carucate of land at Cadweli*, as I have surveyed the same, that is to say : *from the new ditch of the new mill by the stream which thither flows down in winter as far as the house formerly of Balba, and thence to*

the stream, running by the middle grove as far as the road, and from the road, as the said stream runs in to the sea. *And the whole hill, which is called Mount Solomon as far as the open sea on the other side*, as a certain pool stretches as far as the afore-said road : Paid and quit, and free from impediment of servants, and secular exaction, and service, and all tithes, in oats, in calves, in pigs, in lambs, in cheese, and in fish, and in pannage of swine. And, I grant that they may have their own swine quit from pannage, and wood in my forest, and have pasture of their animals with my demesnes, many clerks and laymen seeing and hearing, whose names here are underwritten : Ralph, the chaplain ; Roger, the sub-deacon ; Humphrey, the bishop's brother ; Osmund, the steward (dapifer). Aylric de Halver, Richard Latimer, Hyldebrand, Cornaldus, the butler, William de Lund, Roger de Reigni, Richard Foliot, Robert the old steward, and Robert his son, William the Constable, William Esturmyt, Ralph son of Warin, Robert de Sagio, Robert de Meyer, and Walter his brother ; Picot, Geoffrey Rufus, Robert Niger, Philip de Beaufo, Osmund son of Everard, Roger Foliot, Henry son of Walter de Poterna, Alberic de Felgeriis, Edmund who then kept the Castle of Cadweli, *Alwyn, the priest of the town.*

' This gift was made on the 14th kalends of August in the house of the Castle of Kadweli by the witness of these, and of many others whose names I know not.—

' After the third day, the lord Roger, the Bishop, with the license and consent of Wilfrid Bishop of St. Davids, *dedicated the cemetery in the said place, and in the same dedication by the authority and consent of the said bishop, all the burgesses, both French, English, and Flemings, gave their tithes of Penbray and of Pennalith* by the witness of all those [persons] above mentioned.

' These were put in, and read on the day and at the place above said ; there being present Thomas de Beverlace, Walter de Chigam, clerks ; Richard Dunaing, and John Welewe, specially called and questioned as to this matter, and being witnesses.'



## APPENDIX B.

DUGDALE'S MONASTICON ANGLICANUM. VOL. IV.,  
P. 65. NUM. II.

CHARTER OF RICHARD, SON OF WILLIAM—  
FITZWILLIAM.

*Translation.*

'To Bernard, by the grace of God, Bishop of St. Davids, and to all sons of holy church, Richard son of William, Greeting. Know ye all that I, for the good of my soul and [the souls] of my ancestors and successors, and for the love of Henry my son, monk of the Church of Schyrborn have given and granted to the aforesaid Church of Schyrborn, the abbot and convent of the same place, in alms, my churches which are in your diocese. To wit, the Church of Saint Ismael at Pennalt, *and the Church of All Saints in the territory of Cadweli*, and the Church of Saint Elthute at Penbray with the chapels, lands, tithes, and all their adjuncts to possess by perpetual right, and lest (which God forbid), I or any of my heirs should claim any right or lordship except advowson in these churches or their appurtenances, and to the end that our beloved brethren of the aforesaid church of Scherborn may freely and quietly for ever possess them, we confirm this our gift by the attestation of our charter and by the affixing of our seal.'

## APPENDIX C.

DUGDALE'S MONASTICON ANGLICANUM. VOL. IV.,  
P. 65. NUM. III.

CHARTER OF MAURICE DE LONDRES.

*Translation.*

'To David, by the grace of God, Bishop of St. Davids, as lord and spiritual father and to all the pastors of holy church. Maurice de Londres his obedient in all places, greeting and  
[H]

exhibition of sincere affection. Be it known to you and all worshippers of God that I have given and granted to God and Saint Mary of Kedweli and to the monks of Schyrborne *twelves acres around the Church of St. Cadoc* which adjoin the land of the aforesaid church of St. Mary. Moreover this gift is made for the health of my soul, and of all my ancestors, William de Londres my son hearing and granting and giving with me. These being witnesses, Owan, the knight, and Elias and Robert de Pennard and Walter de Reigni, and Paen and William de Manner, and Nicholas de Almaro. Runciaus and Osmund rectors, and Geoffrey Long and Randulph the clerk and many others. May your sublimity flourish with you.'

## APPENDIX D.

DUGDALE'S MONASTICON ANGLICANUM. VOL. IV.,  
P. 66. NUM. V.

### PETITION CONCERNING THE TITHES OF KIDWELLY.

#### *Translation.*

'In the name of God, Amen. Before you Master John Carmarthen, licentiate in laws and Commissary of the most reverend in Christ, the father and lord John by the grace of God Bishop of St. Davids in this behalf specially deputed, brother Robert Fyfyhyde of the order of St. Benedict, Prior of the Priory of Kedwelly, in the diocese of St. Davids, both say and in law declare against Sir John Sandon calling himself chaplain and pretended procurator of the dean and chapter of the new College of Leicester, in the diocese of Lincoln, and also against Thomas Jenkyn, Philip Davy and John David, laymen of the aforesaid diocese of St. Davids, and against whomsoever suing for them in lawful judgment, that whereas he, the aforesaid brother Robert the Prior, his precedors and predecessors were in possession, or as if of right of receiving, two parts of all the tithes peacefully, quietly, for a time and for times to which the memory of man is not to the contrary, as well real as personal whatsoever arising, and chiefly of milk, wool, and of lambs, in respect of a certain small piece of land commonly called Coldicot, and within the bounds and limits of the parish church of the Blessed Mary of Kedwelly manifestly situated, of which church, the

aforenamed Prior, his precursors and predecessors, is and were Rector or Rectors. Nevertheless, the aforesaid Sir John Sandon, Thomas, Philip and John have spoiled or caused to be despoiled, the aforesaid brother Robert the prior aforesaid of ten lambs (price 3<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup>) five pounds weight of wool (price 15<sup>s</sup>) and three stone of cheese (price 3<sup>s</sup>), and held such spoil ratified and likewise accepted by name of their deed to the great peril of their souls, and to the no small prejudice and damage of the aforesaid brother Robert, Prior of the Priory beforesaid and of his Priory. Wherefore the said Prior prays that the things to be proved in that behalf being proved in his own name and of his priory or of his church beforesaid, the same Sir John Sandon, Thomas ap Jankyn, Philip Davy and John Davy be by you the Lord Judge aforesaid sententially and definitely condemned in ten lambs (price 3<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup>) five pounds weight of wool (price 15<sup>s</sup>) and three stone of cheese (price 3<sup>s</sup>), if they exist, otherwise in twenty four shillings of good and usual money, and also in the damages and costs and interest, and to be restored to the said prior and his church really with effect the aforesaid two parts of all the tithes, and to be reduced and reinstated to their former state, and perpetual silence to be imposed on the beforesaid Sir John, Thomas, Philip, and John and the same to be compelled to desist from molestation perturbation, and disquieting, and further to be done and established what justice shall require always saving the benefit of the law in all things.'

## APPENDIX E.

DUGDALE'S MONASTICON ANGLICANUM. VOL. IV.,  
p. 66. NUM. VI.

### SEQUESTRATION OF THE PROFITS OF THE CHURCH AND PRIORY OF KIDWELLY.

#### *Translation.*

'Richard, by divine permission bishop of St. Davids, to our beloved in Christ *Sir John Griffith perpetual Vicar* of Kydwelly, and Robert Fraunce a layman of the said parish, grace and blessing. Whereas we elsewhere lawfully proceeding, have been led to sequesterate all and singular the fruits, tithes, oblations, profits, and emoluments whatsoever to the parish church of

the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Kydwelly, and to the priory of the same town belonging, or in whatsoever manner appertaining, as well because the said priory is much bound in debt, as also because the aforesaid church is suffering from great and manifest decay, as by the tenor of these presents we do sequesterate, justice demanding and advising the same, therefore to publish such our sequestration in the parish church aforesaid, and also in other neighbouring parish churches during the solemnities of masses and other divine celebrations whilst the greater number of the people congregate therein, and also to demand, levy, collect, and receive all and singular the aforesaid fruits, tithes, oblations, revenues and emoluments whatsoever, and the same levied, collected, and received to distribute and expend in the reparation of the house of the priory and chancel of the church of the Blessed Mary the Virgin before written, until they shall be, and may be sufficiently repaired to you in whose fidelity and circumspection and industry very greatly in the Lord we have confidence, we do commit to you by these presents our functions and full power in the Lord, and do appoint you such our sequestrator and depute as our keepers. So that you be careful to shew a full faithful and entire account to us, and to our officers of all and singular, the emoluments received by you. In witness whereof the seal is appended to these presents, which at present we use for causes, to endure only during our good pleasure.

‘ Dated 20th day of the month of April in the year of our Lord one thousand five hundred and twenty four, and in the first year of our consecration. ’

## APPENDIX F.

DRAFT LEASE, PRESERVED IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE UNDER WHICH THE TEMPORALITIES OF THE PRIORY OF KIDWELLY WERE SOLD.

### *Translation.*

‘ This Indenture made between the most excellent Prince and lord, the lord Henry the Eighth by the grace of God of England &c. of the one part, and George Aysshe and Robert Myryk, yeomen, Purveyors of wines of the lord the King of the other part. Witnesseth that the said lord the King by the advice of

his Council of the Court of the Augmentation of the revenues of his crown has delivered granted and to farm let to the aforesaid George and Robert the house and site of the late Priory or cell of Kydwelly in the county of Carmarthen and all the houses, edifices, curtilages, barns, cemeteries, orchards, apple-orchards, gardens, ponds, fishponds, land and soil whatsoever being within the site and precincts of the same late priory or cell, and all those lands and pastures called Oldehall containing by estimation 4 acres, and the land called Fraunces Parke containing by estimation 1 acre, and the land called Mill Parke containing by estimation 4 acres, and the lands called Verne Parke containing by estimation 4 acres, and the lands called Long Parke containing by estimation 1 acre, and the lands called Skynner's Parke containing by estimation 1 virgate, and the land called Brodelande Parke containing by estimation 4 acres, and the land and pasture called Wenwell Parke containing by estimation 3 acres, and one little grove called Therne containing by estimation 4 acres, with all their appurtenances in Kydwelly in the said county of Carmarthen to the said late Priory or cell at one time belonging and appertaining, and also the whole Rectory of Kydwelly in the said county of Carmarthen to the said late Priory at one time belonging and appertaining, and also all and all manner of tithes of sheaves and corn and grain and tithes of wool and of lambs and other tithes and oblations whatsoever in Estbayly, Moone parisshe, Lleghwen, Welchienfeld, Penwarne, the Holway, Horsestonefelde, the Croftes, Westhill, Westayly, and Middel Bayly, in the said county of Carmarthen and all the tithes of 2 mills in Kydwelly in the said county of Carmarthen, and the whole yearly pension issuing from the Rectory of Penbray to the said late Priory or cell of Kydwelly at one time belonging and appertaining and being parcel of the possessions thereof: which same priory or cell of Kydwelly belonged and appertained to the late monastery of Shirborne in the county of Dorset now dissolved. Except however always and to the said lord the King, his heirs, and successors altogether reserved all gross trees and woods of in and upon the premises growing and being, and the advowson of the Vicarage of the parish church of Kydwelly aforesaid. To have and to hold the aforesaid site of the said late Priory and the aforesaid Rectory lands, meadows, feedings, pastures, tithes and other the premises with the appurtenances except before excepted to the aforesaid George Aysshe and Robert Myryk

and their assigns from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel last past until the end of a term and by a term of 21 years thence next following and fully to be completed, rendering therefor yearly to the said lord the King his heirs and successors Thirty Pounds Six shillings and Four Pence of lawful money of England at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel or within one month after either feast at the Court aforesaid by equal portions to be paid during the term aforesaid. And the aforesaid lord the King wills, and by these presents doth grant that he his heirs and successors from time to time will discharge acquit and defend the said George and Robert and their assigns from all rents fees annuities and sums of money whatsoever issuing from the premises or to be paid or thereupon charged or to be charged, except from the rent above by these presents reserved and *except from a certain yearly pension of eight pounds issuing from the Rectory aforesaid and to the Vicar of the parish church of Kydwelly aforesaid yearly to be paid*, and except nine shillings and nine pence for synodals and procurations of the said church yearly to be paid to the Archdeacon of St. Davids for the time being, against what persons soever, and cause all houses and edifices of the premises in timber only from time to time as often as and whensoever it shall be necessary and convenient to be well and sufficiently repaired sustained and maintained, and will sustain and support the whole repair of the chancel of the parish church of Kydwelly aforesaid from time to time. And the aforesaid George Aysshe and Robert Myryk do grant by these presents that they and their assigns will support and sustain all necessary repairs of the premises, except in the timber aforesaid and except the repairs of the chancel aforesaid from time to time, and will pay the said yearly pension of eight pounds payable to the Vicar of the said church of Kydwelly and the said nine shillings and nine pence yearly payable to the Archdeacon of St. Davids for the time being from time to time, and will discharge the said lord the King his heirs and his successors therefrom during the term aforesaid. And the aforesaid lord the King further willeth and by these presents doth grant that it shall well be lawful to the aforesaid George Aysshe and Robert Myryk and their assigns from time to time to take receive and have of in and upon the premises by assignment and supervision of the surveyors and other officers of the lord the King there for the time being competent and sufficient hedgebote, fyerbote,



ploughbote, and cartbote there and not elsewhere, yearly to be expended and used during the term aforesaid. Provided, nevertheless, always that should the aforesaid rent happen to be in arrear not paid in part or in all by the space of one month after any day of the payment thereof above limited if in due manner demanded, that then and thenceforth this present lease shall be void and had for nought, any clause or article in the same contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. In witness whereof to one part &c. to the other part &c. Dated at Westminster the twenty eighth day of January, in the thirty fifth year of the reign of the said lord the King.'

## APPENDIX G.

### DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

*Reference—Draft Lease  $\frac{6}{48}$ .*

[This lease is preserved in the Public Record Office, and is that under which the property which once belonged to the Chantry of St. Nicholas at Kidwelly was disposed of at its dissolution.]

#### *Translation.*

'This Indenture made between the most excellent prince and lord, the lord Edward the Sixth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and on earth of the English and Irish church supreme head, of the one part, and John Goodale of the other part. Witnesseth that the aforesaid lord the King by the advice and assent of his Council of his Duchy of Lancaster has granted delivered and to farm let to the aforesaid John all that the late Chantry of St. Nicholas in Kydwelly in the county of Carmarthen now dissolved, and all the lands tenements and hereditaments to the said late Chantry belonging or appertaining and hereafter recited, that is to say: One tenement and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of arable land and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre of meadow in Pengwern lately demised to Thomas John Yghne. And also 1 park containing 5 acres in Melyonfelde lately demised to Robert John ap Holl. And 9 acres of arable land in Basslake now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Gower. And also 1 tenement in Westhill and 3 acres of arable land now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John

Gruffyth. And 1 burgage and 1 tenement and 1 acre of land near Saynt Sondaye's Well now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Perotte. And also 2 acres of arable land lying near Cadocke's Mill in the tenure of John Rowe. And 3 acres of arable land lately demised to Nicholas Fraunce. And also 10 acres of arable land in Bronnehill in the tenure of Maurice Dyer. And  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre of land lying in Almanne Redinge in the tenure of William John Richarde. And also 3 acres of land called Ringes landes in the tenure of William Robert. And 1 close containing 5 acres lying in Stockewill lately demised to Thomas Johnes. And also  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre of land lying in Hustede in the tenure of Gruffin John Dd. Thomas. And 2 acres of arable land there in the tenure of Maurice Perott. And also  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre of arable land lying near Somer Wey in the tenure of Robert Jhones. And 1 messuage in Kydwellye in the tenure of Nicholas Robert. And also another messuage there in the tenure of John Walter. And  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre of arable land lying in Westhill in the tenure of Thomas Hallesburne. And also 1 parcel of land in Arles in the tenure of Jeyn Dd. ap Dd. And also 3 parcels of land called Ridgies-in-le-Shill in the tenure of Dd. Thomas. *Which same Chantry lands, tenements, hereditaments, and other the premises to the said Chantry belonging were lately given and granted to the said lord the King and his heirs by authority of a certain Act, of Chantries to fall into the hand of the said lord the King, lately enacted and provided.* To have and to hold the Chantries aforesaid and other all and singular the premises above expressed and specified with the appurtenances to the aforesaid John Goodale and his assigns from the Feast of Easter last past before the date of these presents until the end of a term of twenty one years thence next following and fully to be completed. Rendering therefor yearly to the aforesaid lord the King and his heirs Forty five Shillings of lawful money of England in form following:—

Tenement.	Tenant.	Quantity.	Rent. s d
Pengwern	Thomas John Yghne	6 acres	6 0
Melyonfelde	Robert John ap Holl.	5 „	5 0
Basslake	John Gower	9 „	3 2
Westhill	John Gruffyth	3 „	6 4
Saynt Sondayes	Jeyne Perotte	1 „	2 0
Cadocke's Mill	John Rowe	2 „	2 0



Tenement.	Tenant.	Quantity.	Rent. s d
Arable land	Nicholas Fraunce	3 „	2 4
Bronnehill	Maurice Dyer	10 „	3 4
Almanne Redinge	William John Richard	1½ „	1 0
Ringes landes	William Robert	3 „	3 4
Stockewill	Thomas Jhones	5 „	5 0
Hustede	Gruffin Jhon Dd. Thomas	1½ „	1 0
Arable land	Maurice Perott	2 „	10
Somer Wey	Robert Jhones	1½ „	1 0
Messuage	Nicholas Robert		1 2
„	John Walter		10
Westhill	Thomas Hallesburne	1½ „	4
Arles	Jeyne Dd. ap Dd.	1 parcel	2
Ridgies-in-le-Shill	David Thomas	3 parcels	2
			<hr/>
			45 0

‘ Given at Westminster, on the 12th day of March 3 Edward VI.

Examined by the Court.

Examined by George Haydon.’

## APPENDIX H.

A.D. 1357.

12 p. *Annunciation 30 Edward III.*

*Attested Copy of a Copy of one of the Kedwelli Charters.*

‘ To all those to whom this writing shall come or may concern Henry Duke of Lancaster Earl of Derby of Nicole & of Leicester & Seneschall of England Greeting in God know ye that we having seen the Charter of our most dear ffather Henry Earl of Lancaster & our most dear Mother Maud his wife whom God preserve in these words To All those to whom this writing shall come or may concern Henry of Lancaster Lord Mordume of Kedwelly & of Carn Wathlan & Maud our dear wife Greeting in the Lord know ye . . . . . the Burgesses of our Borough of Kedwelly . . . & . . . freely to have . . . from time whereof memory is not to the contrary all the fran- chises & free Customs under written firstly that all the Bur-

gesses of our sd Borough & their heirs & their assigns having paid every year to us & our heirs for each Burgage in the sd Borough twelve pence stirling at the two terms in the year that is to say at the feast of St Michael Six pence and at the feast of Easter six pence except all that rent of which we are seized And that all the afsd Burgesses & their heirs & assigns who shall dwell in our said Borough accdg to each mans proportion shall account to our hundred of Kedwelli once in every fifteen days for the sum justly due before the setting of the sun before those who have lawfully possessed our hundreds which have been granted by our Letters patent and not before any others whomsoever unless they be by us or by our Seneschall of Kedwelli appointed for that purpose And that none of the afsd Burgesses nor of their heirs nor of their assigns shall be fined for any trespass more than twelve pence in any case relating to us or our heirs for our Disheritance or our mainprize or the mainprize of our heirs or for fforestall homsoken felony, Pountbruche, Disseisin raising Hue & Cry & spilling of blood, of which things if any of the said Burgesses their heirs or their assigns shall be attained by the award and Judgment of four persons whomsoever they be they shall be fined according to the nature of the trespass & all these fines shall be rated in our sd Hundred Forsprys Lastyns & Disseisins by force & arms & recovery shall be adjudged by fines before ourselves or before our heirs & not before any body else whomsoever unless it be by our special order & command And that their . . . . . of each of the afsd Burgesses of their heirs & of their assigns of what age soever he may be at such seizin & of other the tenements of which his ancestor died seized & possed without giving any thing to us or our heirs for such seizure . . . . . other than as afsd And that if the sd heir be dispossessed or fined by any other . . . . . except those that have a right And that the afsd Burgesses their heirs & ass<sup>s</sup> shall peaceably at all times have common of Pasture as much as in us lie for all their beasts as well for their pigs and goats as for all others without pannage & without any other customs in all those our Lordships of Kedwelli & Carn Wathllan within the forest & without the borders of our forest of Pencoyd of Kevengorarth & Kothlyndysagh & our premises in Dalkynadan & in Wenhold our pasture in Glyn each at the feast of the assumption of our Lady as well as at the feast of Saint Andrew And to till and depasture in our Demesnes of Kedwelli of Carn Wathlan of St Ishmael & of

Coldcote & the rents thereof as usual to be paid to us And that we & our heirs shall be at liberty to make our profits of our said land except the land enclosed within all the parks round our sd Borough And saving to the sd Burgesses their heirs & ass<sup>s</sup> sufficient pasture & free entry & free seizin to the same pasture for all their Cattle afsd at their pleasure in the manner following as far as they chuse in going to & returning from or depasturing their said Cattle from sun rise to sun set except in the places afsd And that the afsd burgesses their heirs & ass<sup>s</sup> shall at all times have houseboot & shipboot in all those our woods of Kedwelli & of Carn Wathlan by raising and taking the same from our forests & lands afsd And that they shall have fireboot & hayboot in our wood of Glynusen the decayed Wood there as well as the decayed Wood in any other place whatsr . . . . . and besides the other woods there they shall pay houseboot & shipboot in the same wood as they shall so raise & take from our Foresters & not otherwise . . . . . notwithstanding any thing that shall be herein found to the contrary & Shipboot . . . . . in . . . . . in coming to our said Lordship of Kidwelli to serve . . . . . our sd Borough & that they shall not sell nor remove any part thereof out of our said Borough by fraud to the damage of us or of our heirs And that they shall have . . . . . for houseboot & Turbary both within & without our said forest . . . . . the lands of Kidwelli & Carnwathlan or Scontol & the Turbary which shall be found in the places hereinafter mentioned And that they shall have in time of Harvest their swine free of pannage in all our woods of Kidwelli & Carnwathlan save our forests & woods underwritten And that they shall have free liberty to fish in all our . . . . . of Kedwelli and Carnwathan in such places wherein they have been accustomed to fish and to take the same as of right except in our particular ponds and fisheries And if the afsd Burgesses or their heirs or their assigns or any of their servants shall commit any trespass either within or without the said forest or our Lands afsd that they shall make amends at the porch of our Castle at Kidwelli by the Inquest of six freeholders or of six Burgesses of our said Borough or upon the testimony of our foresters there and that the trespass shall be accounted for according to the nature of the sd trespass And that none of the afsd Burgesses nor of their heirs nor of their assigns shall be detained within the porch of our said Castle at Kidwelli for any trespass that he may have commit-

ted if he shall be able to procure sufficient mainprize for the same but if the same cannot be done then & in such case he shall not be replevysable And that the afsd Burgesses their heirs & ass<sup>s</sup> shall elect the provost of our said Borough in the next Hundred after the feast of St Michael for whom they shall be answerable in so doing . . . . . the office belonging to which provost shall serve us in our said borough to execute and return the Attachments and to receive the tolls & rents and fines there and to execute our orders as far as shall belong to his office within our said Borough without being charged to any other office And if the servant of any of the afsd Burgesses or of their heirs or ass<sup>s</sup> shall have these effects his master shall proceed as in cases of felony for the same . . . . . proper shall be forfeited & that his Master . . . . . his effect for . . . . . forfeitures . . . . . if he . . . . . the sd servant or any other . . . . . may be enabled to take the said effects so seized & that if they are challanged within a year & a day & that he can make it appear that the same felony was not done by the order nor by the aid or privity of him And that if any of the afsd Burgesses their heirs or ass<sup>s</sup> shall die without making a will his known son & heir shall have the substance of his father so dying without disturbance or challenge of us of our heirs And that if any of the afsd Burgesses or of their heirs or their ass<sup>s</sup> shall have purchased in open day before his neighbours of Kidwelli . . . . . manner of merchandize & the same merchandize shall be challanged as dishonestly purchased that they shall sustain no loss by the merchandize there purchased so that they can prove that they did not know that the same were fraudulently obtained And that the afsd Burgesses their heirs & their ass<sup>s</sup> shall attend us & our heirs if occasion shall be in going through all the Inner Precint of Gales and that they shall give unto us & to our heirs reasonable surety on the first of August after their departure from our said Borough if they do not remain within the same Borough And that they shall attend our Seneschall of Kedwelli when we or our heirs shall come to our said Borough if needs may be thro' the interior part of the whole of the afsd Precinct of Gales at our reasonable expences in the form aforesaid And that they shall attend our Seneschall thro' all the inner part of our Lordship of Kedwelli & Carn Wathllan when need shall be in time of war And that if the said Seneschall shall go beyond the Bounds of our sd Lordship in such perambulation he shall

then return to the sd Lordship on the first of August & not before & if he does not perform this willingly or that he acts contrary to us or to our heirs & to our reasonable direction in the form underwritten that then the Seneschall & all the sd Burgesses of our said Borough shall chuse people of the same Borough who shall be more sufficient according to the form afsd & not in . . . . . nor any others who shall not be . . . . . to do this there at all times that our sd Borough may be sufft . . . . . hundred of Kedwelli in the form underwritten & if we or our heirs or any of . . . . . shall take or cause to be taken any of the aforesaid . . . . . their heirs or ass<sup>s</sup> of their Goods or of their chattels & that this shall be of such things as shall be to be sold & not of any others. And if this cannot be done of their good Will & that whensoever it shall be taken it shall be paid within four days . . . . . & if that cannot be immediately paid . . . . . within our . . . . . the time which we shall neither take nor cause to be taken any thing else except that which shall be taken there so far as that the same shall plainly appear to us to be their assetts For which cause we the aforesaid Henry and Maud all the afsd Franchizes & free customs there found by the afsd Inquest do grant & confirm for us & for our heirs to the afsd Burgesses of our said Borough of Kedwelli & to their heirs & to their ass<sup>s</sup> for ever in the form underwritten And do hereby grant unto them for us & for our heirs all the advantages & free customs that they have or were accustomed to have as the same have been heretofore granted In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our seal Witness Sir Thomas De Blound Sir Wm De Cantelou Richard De Ryvers our Seneschall of Kidwelli Philip de Skenfryth, Richd de Penres John de Botyler, Giffo Dun Cadugan ap Griffith Dani Malefaunt & others Given at our Castle of Kidwelli the 12th day next after the feast of the assumption of our Lady in the year of King Edward Son of King Edwd the 2nd Which franchises gifts grants places usages & customs afsd according to the Charter of our most honored father & mother we the afsd Henry Duke of Lancaster do give grant confirm ratify & approve for us & for our heirs to the afsd burgesses of our Borough of Kedwelli & to their heirs & to their ass<sup>s</sup> from henceforth for ever in manner afsd And if the sd Burgesses . . . . . have not enjoyed the franchises afsd We will & grant for us & for our heirs that the afsd Burgesses their heirs & their ass<sup>s</sup> shall be at liberty to enjoy them

. . . . . or . . . . . And we the afsd Henry & our heirs the afsd Franchises grants usages and customs afsd to the afsd Burgesses & their heirs and their ass<sup>s</sup> do grant & confirm for ever In Witness whereof we have put our seal to this our writing Given at our Castle of Leycester the 12 day next after the Annunciation of our Lady in the 30 year of the reign of King Edward the 3d after the Conquest.

Attested as a true Copy of a Copy  
of this Charter, this 4 day of  
April 1792, by us,

Amos Clarke, } Clerks to Mr. Foulkes,  
John Browne, } Hart St, Bloomsbury.'

## APPENDIX I.

A.D. 1444.

' Henry by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland To all to whom these presents shall come greeting Know ye that we considering in what manner the Burgesses of our Borough and Town of Kidwelly in South Wales within our Dutchy of Lancaster have manifoldly suffered no small losses and burnings of their houses and divers oppressions which the Welchmen of their malice heretofore have often brought upon them & that therefore the sd Town which is an ancient Borough of our said Dutchy is now in a manner waste and desolate for the want of Burgesses there dwelling, and willing therefore as well for the assistance and relief of the sd Town and Borough of Kidwelly as of our County more amply to provide for the convenience peace & quiet of the sd Burgesses have granted and by these presents Do grant to the sd Burgesses and resiants within the sd Town and Borough of Kidwelly to their heirs and successors that they shall have a Commonalty amongst themselves and that the said Burgesses on the morrow of the Epiphany of our Lord next ensuing may chuse from among themselves one Mayor and two Bailiffs who after they shall have been elected shall take their Corporal Oaths in the Exchequer of Kidwelly before the Receiver or Auditor there then being for the due performance and execution of the Offices of Mayor and Bailiffs from the sd Morrow of the Epiphany to the next Sunday after the feast of St Michael the Archangel



then next ensuing and the said Mayor and Bailiffs thus elected the sd Offices of Mayor and Bailiffs for the sd time shall perform and execute and that the said Burgesses their heirs and Successors from thenceforth may elect from among themselves a Mayor and 2 Bailiffs once every year that is on the next Sunday after the feast of St Michael the Archangel who immediately after they shall have been thus elected and sworn to the due performance of their sd Offices in the sd Church before the Receiver or Auditor there for the time being the Offices of Mayor and Bailiffs there duly may perform exercise and execute And if it happens that any Mayor or Bailiff should die within a year after such election that then the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors may chuse from among themselves one other Mayor or other Bailiff or Bailiffs in the place of him or them so dying who have taken the oath as aforesd may do & execute the Office of Mayor or of Bailiff or Bailiffs for all the remaining part of that year And that 2 Officers to be chosen by the Mayor of the sd Town for the time being may have and carry each of them one Mace with our arms of our said Dutchy engraved on it And that the sd Mayor and Bailiffs thus elected and *officers* and commonalty of the sd town and Borough be one incorporate body and fully capable and fit to purchase lands and tenements and other possessions for themselves and their successors by the names of Mayor Bailiffs and Commonalty of the Town and Borough of Kidwelly and that by the sd names they may plead and be impleaded answer and be answered and have perpetual succession. We have also granted to the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors for ever our Town and Borough aforesaid with the market and fairs of the sd Town and Borough Stallage pickage tolls and all other customs profits and commodities thereunto belonging also *tolls* of the country and rent of Assize and all lands escheated in the Town and Borough aforesaid We have also granted to the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors that they shall have a Court or Hundred of Kidwelly and all fines issues and amerciaments in the sd Court or Hundred forfeitures and other perquisites and advantages thence proceeding or to the sd Hundred or Court in any way appertaining or belonging And that the Mayor of the sd Town then being may hold before him all Pleas real personal and mixed to the sd Hundred belonging or any wise appertaining as well concerning lands & tenements situate in the sd Town and Borough as other lands and tenements without the sd town and Borough

which are of Burgage tenure as of debts trespasses reckonings agreements and other contracts and causes whatsoever within the said Town and Borough and their precincts arising as also pleas of piepowder and fairs at the suit of any person whatsoever prosecuting or desirous to prosecute before them by writ or without writ as fully and perfectly as our Stewards or the Stewards of our Ancestors there being were accustomed to hold pleas so that neither Steward Bailiff nor other Officer of us or of our heirs shall on any account intermeddle with the sd Hundred or with the holding of any pleas to the sd Hundred belonging or which ought of old to belong And that the Mayor Bailiffs and Commonalty of the said Town their heirs and Successors by the Bailiffs of the sd Town for the time being shall have Returns of all writs and precepts of us and our heirs Justices escheators and others our Judges or those of our heirs whomsoever and executions of the said writs and precepts in all pleas real personal and mixed and all causes within the said town and Borough and the limits and precincts of the same as well in the Borough as in the Forensia within the four ancient crosses that compass the said Town so that neither escheator Steward or other Bailiff or Minister of us and our heirs within the said town and Borough nor in any other place within the said limits and precincts thereof shall enter to make any execution or on any other account interfere And that the Mayor and Bailiffs of the said town for the time being be Justices for preserving of the Peace for us and our heirs within the said Town and Borough and precinct thereof as well in the Borough as in the foreland within the sd four Crosses and that they shall have full power to hear and determine all things belonging to the Office of Justice of the Peace to be executed within the Town and precincts aforesd so that no Justice Steward Constable or other Officer of us or of our heirs shall enter the sd Town and Borough or precincts of the same to do & execute there any thing that belongs to the office of Justice of the Peace We have also granted to the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors that they shall have or may chuse from among themselves every year on the day aforesd One Coroner who having taken the usual oath may do and execute all that belongs to the Office of Coroner in the sd Borough and precincts thereof And further of our more abundant grace We have granted for us and our heirs that the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors their Servants and also the tenants of the sd Burgesses their heirs



and Successors residing within the Town and Borough afd shall not in future be impleaded or forced to answer before any Judges or other Officer of us or our heirs on any indictment accusation or Appeal of Treason or for trespasses *rectis injuriis* misprisons or other crimes or offences whatsoever or in any actions or pleas real personal and mixed at the suit of us and our heirs or of any other person whatsoever in any Court within the Lordships of Kidwelly Carnwillion and Iskennen except in the sd Hundred or before the Justices in eyre of us and our heirs when they shall come into those parts and shall not nor shall any of them be convicted or tried within the said Lordships by any foreigners but by entire Englishmen of the sd Borough and not by any Welshmen for ever We have also granted to the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors that no fair or market be kept in the vicinity of the sd Borough within the distance of 5 miles of the same and that no wares merchandizes or victuals be exposed to Sale in any Publick Place within the sd 5 miles but in the Borough itself except Bread and Beer bought in the said Borough which afterwards may lawfully be sold without the Borough by such as have bought within the Borough except flesh and fish cut up in like manner first bought within the sd Borough and except milk cheese eggs Poultry and such like *small* victuals which may be lawfully bought and sold in the houses of those to whom such small Victuals belong so than they shall not be exposed to Sale in any publick place withit the said Borough And that the market of the said Town be kept within the walls of the sd Town in the usual and accustomed place on Wednesday and Sunday in every week and not otherwise as it used to be done And that they may have before the sd Mayor and Bailiffs in the Hundred of the said Town cognizance and punishment of all and singular the offenders in regrating and forestalling of all wares and victuals of such as are desirous of frequenting the market of the said Town for the provision and supply of our Castle there and the sd Town and to impose fines on them according to their deserts which fines are to be levied *at the option* of the said Burgesses their heirs and successors And that they may have cognizance and punishment of breach of assize of Bread and Beer and of other *broken victuals* in the sd Town and Borough and Assize of weights measures and balances within the sd Town and Borough so that no Steward or Marshal of our Household or of our heirs or Clerk of the market Justice or any other whatsoever shall enter or interfere

in any wise with the Assize of those measures weights and balances or any other thing which belongs to the office of Clerk of the Market to be done and executed within the sd Town and Borough And that it shall be lawful for any Burgess of the sd Borough his heirs and successors to hold what he has purchased in the sd Borough as his Chattels and by his last Will bequeath them accordingly to whomsoever he shall chuse And that neither the sd Burgesses their heirs and successors within the said Borough during their residence there shall contribute to any payments concerning any *customs* grants aids tallage or fines whatsoever granted or to be granted through the whole realm to us and our heirs unless in the sd Borough with the Burgesses where they are conversant as they were used to pay and that none of the said Burgesses their heirs and successors their tenants or Vassals within our land and power shall be distrained or attached for the debt or trespass of any of his neighbours unless he be a principal Debtor or Surety & whosoever shall be the Surety of another shall not be compelled to pay so long as the principal debtor has wherewith to pay and that the Court of Welshmen and foreigners and Sessions which were wont to be held within the sd Town and Borough of Kidwelly may henceforth be held there for ever according to usual custom rendering therefore yearly to us and our heirs by the hands of our Receiver of Kidwelly for the time being £26 13<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> at the feasts of Easter and St Michael the Archangel by equal portions for all Services customs and demands In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patent Given under our Seal of our said Dutchy at our Castle at Windsor the 8th day of December in the 22nd year of our reign by Bill signed by the Kings hand and sealed with the signet of the Eagle.'

## APPENDIX J.

'An exemplification of the original Charter, at the instance of Phillip Morgan, Mayor of Kidwelly, by Patent of Henry the Eighth, 20th February, 32nd year of his reign.'

## APPENDIX K.

'An exemplification of the original Charter, by Patent of Edward the Sixth, 20th May, 4th year of his reign.'

## APPENDIX L.

A.D. 1619.

'James by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the faith &c. To our beloved and right trusty Sir Humphrey May Knt Chancellor of our Duchy of Lancaster Greeting We command you that under the seal of our said Duchy of Lancaster you cause our letters to be made patent in form following—The King to all to whom &c. Greeting Whereas our Borough of Kidwellie in our County of Carmarthen is a very ancient and populous Borough & the Mayor Bailiffs & commonalty of the sd Borough by divers sevl names have had used and enjoyed divers liberties franchises immunities customes preheminenes and hereditis as well by divers charters and letters patent of divers our Predecessors & Ancestors late Kings of England Dukes of Lancaster & others as by reason of divers prescriptions usuages & customs in the same Boro of old time used had and accustomed And whereas our beloved subjects the now Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough afd have humbly entreated us that as far as in us lies we would for the better rule & improvement of the said Boro' graciously extend our royal Grace and munificence to them the sd Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough afd in this behalf And that we would vouchsafe to reduce constitute or create anew the sd Mayor Bailiffs and Commonalty of the sd Borough by which name or names they have soever they have been heretofore incorporated into one body corporate & politic by the name of the Mayor Aldermen & Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro of Kidwelly in the County of Carmarthen with the addition of certain liberties privileges immunities & franchises as shall to us seem most expedient We therefore willing that for ever hereafter one certain & undoubted method be had in the same Boro the liberties & precincts of the same of in & upon the keeping of our peace & the rule & Government of the same Boro & our people there dwelling and others thereto resorting And that the same Boro be hereafter perpetual & remain a Boro' of peace & quietness to the fear & terror of evil doers & to the encouragement of the good and that our peace & other acts of Justice & good government may be the better there kept & done And hoping that if the Mayor Bailiffs & Commonalty of

the Boro afsd do of our Grant enjoy greater & more ample liberties dignities & priviledges they will then think themselves more especially & cogently bound to do to us our heirs & successors what services they are able of our special Grace certain knowledge & mere mocon Have willed ordained constituted & granted & Do by these presents for us our heirs and successors will ordain constitute grant and declare That our afsd Boro of Kidwelli in our coy of Carmn be and remain at all times for ever hereafter a free Boro of itself And that the Mayor Bailiffs & commonalty of the Boro of Kidy as afsd their successors & also the Burgesses & inhabitants of the same Boro by whatsoever name or names they were theretofore incorporated & whether they have been incorporated or not from henceforth for ever be & by virtue of these presents shall be one body corporate & politic in Deed fact & name by the name of the Mayor Alderman Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Boro of Kidwelli in the Coy of Carmarthen & these & their successors by the name of Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro of Kidy in the County of Carmarthen We do by these presents for us our heirs & successors really & fully erect make ordain constitute confirm declare & create one Body corporate & politic in deed fact & name & that by the sd name they have perpetual succession And that they & their successors be & at all times hereafter shall be by the name of Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro of Kidwelli in the County of Carmarthen persons fit & capable in Law to have purchase receive and possess lands tenements meadows feedings pastures liberties priviledges franchises Jurisdictions and Hereditis to them & their successors in fee & perpetuity or for the term of life or lives or of years or any otherwise howsoever & also goods & chattels & all other things whatsr of what kind nature sort or quality soever. And to give grant demise & assign the same lands tenements hereditis goods chattels & to do & execute all other acts and things by the name afsd And that by the name of Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro of Kidwellie in the County of Carmarthen they may plead be impleaded answer & be answered defend & be defended in whastr courts & places & before whatsr Judges & Justices & other persons & officers of us our heirs & successors in all & singr Actions Pleas Suits Causes Matters & demands whatsr or what kind nature or sort soever they may or shall be in the same manner & form as any other our liege subjects within this our Kingdom

of England being persons fit & capable in Law or any body Corporate within this our kingdom of England may & can have purchase receive possess give grant & plead & be impleaded answer & be answered defend & be defended And that the afsd Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their successors may have for ever a common seal to be kept for the doing of all Business whatsoever of them & their successors And that it shall & may be lawful for them the said Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their successors for the time being to break change & make anew the sd seal from time to time as shall to them seem most expedient And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afsd Mayor alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their successors that there shall & may be from henceforth for ever in the Boro afsd one of the Burgesses of the Boro afsd to be elected in manner & form in these presents hereafter specified who shall be & be named the Mayor of the Boro afsd And that there may & shall be in like manner withen the Boro afsd two of the Burgesses of the sd Boro to be elected in manner in these presents hereafter mentd who shall be & be named & called the Bailiffs of the Boro afsd And that there may & shall be within the Boro afsd twelve of the better & more responsible burgesses & inhabitants of the Boro afsd to be elected & appointed in manner in these presents hereafter mentd who shall be named & called Alderman of the Boro afsd And that in like manner there may & shall be within the sd Boro other twelve of the more responsible & discreet burgesses of the Boro afsd to be elected in mmer in these presents also hereafter mentd who may & shall be called the principal Burgesses of the Boro afsd which sd princd Burgesses & Bailiffs to be so from time to time nominated & elected may & shall be from time to time aiding & assisting to the Mayor & Alderman of the sd Boro for the time being in all causes Businesses & things in any wise touching or concerning the Boro afsd And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afsd Mayor alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their successors that the Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & principal Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the Mayor part of them (of whom we will that the Mayor for the time being shall be one) shall & may have full power & ability of founding constituting ordaining making & establishing from time to time such Laws



statutes rights ordinances & constitutions as to them or the Major part of them (of whom we will that the Mayor for the time being shall be one) shall accordg to their sound discretion seem good wholesome profitable honest & necessary for the good rule & Government of the Boro afd & of all the Officers Ministers Artificers Burgesses inhabitants & residents of the sd Boro & for the declg in what manner & order they the sd Mayor Aldern Bailiffs & princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afd & all & singr other the officers ministers artificers Burgesses & Inhabitants of the sd Boro for the time being shall use carry & demean themselves in their offices duties ministries & Businesses within the afd Boro the liberties & precincts thereof And also for the better preservation Government Disposition letting & demising of the Lands tents possons & hereditaments & of the Goods & chattels of the afd Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd & other matters & things whatsr touching or in anywise concerning the Boro afd or the estate right & intt thereof And that the Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being (of whom we will that the Mayor for the time being shall be one) so often as they shall found make & establish such laws rights ordinances & constitutions in form afd may make ordain limit & provide such pains punishments & penalties by imprisonment of the Body or by fines amerciaments or by either of them towards & upon the offenders against such statutes laws rights ordinances and constitutions or any or either of them as to them the sd Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & principal Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom We will the Mayor shall be one) shall appear to be meet necessary fitting & requisite for the observation of the sd laws statutes ordinances & constitutions And shall & may levy take & have the same fines & amerciaments without the hindrance of us our heirs or successors or of any the officers & ministers of us our heirs or successors whomsr All & singr which laws statutes rights ordinances & customs so as afd to be made We Will shall be observed under the punishments to be therein contd So nevertheless as that the afd Laws rights ordinances statutes constitutions pains punishments and imprisonments be reasonable & not repugant nor contrary to the Laws statutes liberties rights & customs of our Kingdom of England And for the better exeon of our will & Grant in this behalf we have assigned nominated constituted & made & do by these presents for us our heirs

& successors assign nominate constitute & make our beloved Thomas Babington Esqr one of the Burgesses of the Boro afsd to be the first & now Mayor of the Boro afsd to continue in the same office from the date of these presents until the Monday next after the feast of St Michael the Archangel next ensuing & from thence until one or of the Aldn of the Boro afsd shall be in due mmer elected preferred & sworn to the office of Mayor of the Boro afsd accdg to the ordinances & provisions hereafter in these presents expressed & decl'd if he the sd Thos Babington shall so long live We have also assigned nominated constituted & made & by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign nominate & make our beloved Jno Howel Maurice Dyer Henry Fisher Master of Arts, Hugh Dyer, David Dyer Jno Aylwarde Wm Gardner Griffithe Bowen, Jno Fisher Dd Williams Griffith Rowe David King Burgesses of the Boro afsd to be the first & now aldermen of the Boro afsd to continue in the sd office of Aldermen of the Boro afsd during their natural lives unless for misgovernment or for misbehaviour in that behalf or for any other reasle cause they or any of them shall in the mean time be amoved from that office We have also assigned nominated constituted & made & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign nominate constitute & make our beloved Wm Gardner & Owen Bowen Gentn Burgesses of the Boro afsd to be the first & now Bailiffs of the Boro afsd to continue in that office from the date of these presents until the Monday next after the feast of St Michael the Archangel now next ensuing & from thence until two others to the office of Bailiffs of the Boro afsd shall in due mmer be elected preferred & sworn accdg to the Ordinances & provisions in these presents expressed & decl'd if they the sd Wm Gardner & Owen Bowen shall so long live We have also assigned nominated constituted & made & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign nominate constitute & make our beloved Owen Bowen Jno Dyer Daud Dyer Jno Phillips Maurice Fisher David Mansell Walter Rice Wm Collin Heny John, Thos Walter David Merton & Maurice Rice to be the first & now princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afsd to continue in that office during their natural lives unless for misgovernmt or for misbehaviour in that behalf or for any or reasle cause they or any of them shall in the mean time be amoved therefrom And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the before named Mayor aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd

& their Successors that the Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the Major part of them (of whom we will that the mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being shall be one) shall & may from time to time & at all times hereafter have the power faculty & authy yrly for ever in & upon the Monday next after the feast of St Michael the Archgel of naming & electing & that they shall & may name & elect one of the Aldermen of the Boro afsd to be Mayor of the same Boro for & during one whole year then next follg And that he after he shall as afsd be nominated the Mayor of the Boro afsd before he shall be admitted to execute that office shall take his corporal oath in the Guild hall of Kidwelly before the last mayor his predecessor well & faithfully to execute that office And that after he shall have so taken such oath he shall & may execute the office of Mayor of the Boro afsd until Mondy next after the feast of St Michael the Archgl then next follg & from thence until one or of the Aldn of the sd Boro shall be in due mmer elected preferred & sworn into that office accdg to the ordinances & provisions in these presents expd & decld And moreover we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the Major part of them (of whom we will that the Mayor shall always be one) shall & may at all times hereafter have power faculty & authority yearly for ever in & upon the Mondy next after the feast of St Michl the Archgl of electg & nominatg & that they shall & may elect & nominate two of the princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd to be the Bailiffs of the sd Boro for & during one whole year then next follg And that they after they shall be so as afsd elected & nominated the Bailiffs of the Boro afsd befe they shall be admitted to execute that office shall each of them take his Corpl Oath in the Guildhall of Kidwelly afsd befe the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being well & faithlly to execute the sd Office of Bailiffs of the Boro afsd And that after they shall have so taken such oath they shall & may execute the office of Bailiffs of the Boro afsd until the Mondy next after the feast of St Michael the Archgl then next follg & from thence until two others of the princel Burgs of the Boro afsd shall in due mmer be elected preferred & sworn into the office of Bailiffs of the Boro afsd accdg to the ordinances & provisions in these presents expressed & delcd



And moreover we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd & their succrs that if it shall happen that the Mayor of the Boro afd for the time being shall at any time die within one year after he shall be preferred & sworn into the office of Mayor of the Boro afd That then it may & shall be lawful for the Aldn Bailiffs & princ Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being or the major part of them to elect & prefer one other of the Aldermen of the Boro afd into the office of Mayor of the Boro afd And that he to be so as afd from time to time elected & preferred shall have & exercise that office during the remr of the same yr havg first taken his Corpl oath in the Guildhall of Kidwy afd befe two or more of the Aldn of the sd Boro for the time being well faithfully & rightfully to execute the sd Office & so as often as the case shall happen to which sd Aldn or any two or more of them for the time being (as the case happens) we do by these presents for us our heirs & successors give & grant full power & authority to administer such seasble oath to the pson to be so nominated & elected Mayor of the Boro afd well & faithfully to exte the sd Office & that witht any o' or fur writ want or grant to be from us our heirs or succrs in this behf. procured and obtd And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd & their succrs that if it shall happen that the Bailiffs of the Boro afd for the time being or eir of them shall at any time die within one year after they shall be preferred & sworn into the Office of Bailiffs of the Boro afd or be removed from that Office (which sd Bailiffs or any of them for misbehaviour in the sd office or for any or reasble cause) by the Mayor Aldn & princ Burgs of the Boro afd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall always be one) we will shall be removable that then & so often as it shall & may be lful for the Mayor Aldn & princ Burgs of the Boro afd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) to elect & prefer one other or two others of the princ Burgs of the Boro afd into the office or offices of Bailiff or Bailiffs of the Boro afd And that he or they so as afd elected & preferred may have & exercise the office of Bailiff or Bailiffs of the Boro afd during the remr of the same year havg first taken their Corpl Oaths in the Guildhall afd before the Mayor of the Boro afd for the time being & so on as often

as the case shall so happen We also will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afd Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd & their succrs that so often as it shall happen that any of the Aldermen of the Boro afd for the time being shall die or be amoved from their office wch sd Alderman or any of them for misbehaviour in their office or for any other reasble cause by the Mayor & the Major part of the rest of the Aldermen Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being we will shall be answerable that then & so often it shall & may be lawful for the Mayor Aldemen Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afd or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) to elect & nominate one or more other or ors of the Bailiffs or princel Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being within a convenient time after such death or amoval in the place or places of him or them the sd Alderman or Aldermen so happg to die or be amoved And that he or they after he or they shall be so as afd elected & preferred into the office of Aldn or Alden of the Boro afd may have & exercise the sd office during his or their natural life or lives unless he or they shall in the mean time be amoved in form afd for misbehaviour or any other reasble cause havg first taken their Corporal oaths in the Guildhall of Kidwelly afd befe the Mayor of the Boro afd for the time being well & faithlly in & by all things to execute the sd office & so on as often as the case shall so happen And if it shall happen that any or either of the princel burgs of the Boro afd for the time being shall die or be amoved from that office (which sd princel Burgesses and any of them for misbehaviour or any other reasble cause by the Mayor & major part of the Aldn & Bailiffs & the rest of the princel Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being we will shall be amovable) that then & so often it shall & may be lful for the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afd or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall always be one) to nominate elect & prefer one or more other or others of the Burgesses or inhabitants of the Boro of Kidwelly afd within a convenient time after such death or amoval in the place or places of him or them the sd princel Burgess or Burgesses so happg to die or be amoved to continue in office during his or their natural life or lives unless he or they shall in the mean time be amoved in form afd for misbehaviour or o<sup>r</sup> reasble cause havg first taken their corpl oaths at the Guildhall afd before the Mayor of the Boro

afsd for the time being well & faithfully to execute the sd office & so on as often as the case shall so happen And further we will that from henceforth there shall be for ever within the Boro afsd one sufficient & discreet man of the Burgesses of the sd Boro who shall be called the Chamberlain of the Boro of Kidwelly afsd And for the better execution of our will in this behalf we have assigned nominated constituted & made & by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign nominate constitute & make our beloved Robert Jollife to be the first & now Chamberlain of the Boro afsd to continue in the sd office during the pleasure of the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor of the sd Boro shall always be one) first taking his Corporal Oath before the Mayor of the Boro afsd well & faithfully to exte the sd office And if it shall at any time happen that the Chamberlain of the Boro afsd for the time being shall die or be amoved from the sd Office (which sd Chamberlain we will shall be amovable for any reasle cause at the pleasure of the Mayor & the major part of the Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses afsd for the time being) that then it shall & may be lawful for the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) to nominate elect & prefer one other of the Burgesses or Inhabitants of the Boro afsd within a convenient time after such death or amoval to be Chamberlain of the Boro afsd to continue in the sd office during the pleasure of the Mayor & major part of the Aldn Bailiffs & principal Burgesses as afsd first takg his corpl oath in form afsd in the Guildhall afsd And so on as often as the case shall so happen But we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs ordain constitute & declare that no person shall at any time hereafter be admitted to the office of Mayor Aldn Bailiff Princel Burgess or Chamberlain of the Boro afsd unless he be an inhabitant & resident within the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thof nor shall execute any of those offices longer than he is inhabg & residing within the same Boro the liberties or precincts thof any thing in these presents contd to the conty notwithstg Also we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their Successors And we do likewise ordain constitute & declare that all lands tents & hdts as well in the Boro afsd as in the outparts within the four ancient crosses by the circuit of the

same Boro be from henceforth for ever within the liberties limits circuits precincts & bounds of the sd Boro And that the sd Boro with such liberties limits circuit & precinct shall be a free Boro of itself distinct & separate from any or Ldship City Boro or Town in the afsd Coy of Carmarthen And fur we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that whensr & as often as any of the Burgesses free men as Inhabitants of the Boro afsd shall be respaly elected & preferred in due manner & accdg to the true Interest of these presents to the office or offices of Mayor Aldn Bailiffs principal Burgesses or Chambn of the sd Boro havg notice by the Mayor of the sd Boro for the time being to him or them respecty given to have & exercise the sd offices or any of them to which he or they shall be so elected & preferred & shall deny & refuse to take upon themselves the same that then & so often it shall & may be lawful for them the sd Mayor Aldn & princd Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will that the Mayor shall be one) to tax & impose upon all & singr such person & persons or as afsd denying or refusing the offices afsd the sums follg (i.e.) Upon such persons denying or refusing to take upon himself the office of Mayor of the Boro afsd to which he shall be so elected & preferred as afsd the sum of £6 of lful money of England & upon every such person or persons denying or refusing to take upon thselves the office of Aldn of the Boro afsd £4 of lawful money of England & upon every person denying & refusing to take upon himself the office of Bailiff of the Boro afsd £3 of lawful money of England & upon every person denying & refusing to take upon himself the office of Principal Burgess of the Boro afsd £2 of like moy & upon every person denying & refusing to take upon himself the office of Chamberlain of the Boro afsd £2 of lawful money of England and shall & may levy have & rece the Fines so taxed & imposed from time to time by distress of the Goods & chattels of such persons so denying & refusing & of every of them or orwise by action suit or plaint to the use of the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses & their succrs & the Comonalty of the Boro afsd witht acct or any other thing to be therefore to us our heirs or succrs in any wise rendered pd or done And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs and succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Alderman Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their

succrs that the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being shall be one) shall & may have power of nominating & electing & that they shall & may from time to time for ever nominate & elect one upright & discreet man to be chief steward of the Boro afsd to continue in the said office during the pleasure of the Mayor & the Major part of the Aldn Bailiffs & princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being first takg his Corpl Oath before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the faithful execn of the said office Also we have assigned ordained made & constituted & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign make ordain & constitute our beloved Henery Fleetwood Esqre to be the first & now recorder of the Boro afsd to have & exercise the sd Office during his natural life by himself or his sufficient Deputy which sd Deputy of the afs Hy Fleetwood shall take his corpl Oath before the Mayor for the time being well & faithfully to execute his office And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will that the Mayor shall be one) shall & may have power & authority of nominating & electing & that they shall & may from time to time nominate & elect one upright & discreet man learned in the Laws of England who shall be & be called the Recorder of the Boro afsd which sd Recorder so nominated & elected shall take his corporal oath before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being to execute his sd office of recorder of the Boro afsd in all things relating thereto And we do by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign ordain make & constitute our beloved Henry Fleetwood Esqre to be the first & now Recorder of the Boro atd to have & exercise the sd office during his natural life by himself or by his sufficient Deputy the afsd Henry Fleetwood first taking this Corpl Oath befe the Mayor for the time being well & faithfully to execute the sd Office And that after such Oath so taken he shall exercise & execute the sd Office by himself or by his sufficient Deputy learned in the laws of England such Deputy havg taken the like oath in mmer afsd durg the pleasure of the Mayor & the Major part of the Aldermen Bailiffs & princ'l Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being And that the Recorder of the Boro afd or his sufft Depy to be from time to time nominated & elected shall be from time to time



aiding & assisting to the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being in all matters & things which in the Court of Record of the Boro afsd shall be from time to time pleadable & determinable & shall do & execute all things which to the office of Recorder do belong or appertain in as ample manner & form as any other recorder in any Boro or Town incorporate within this Kingdom of England doth & may execute by virtue of the office of Recorder We have granted moreover & by these presents for us our heirs & successors grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that the Mayor & Recorder of the Boro afsd the Depy of the sd Recorder in his absence for the time being & also one of the Aldn of the Boro afsd to be yearly & from time to time nominated & elected by the Mayor Aldermen & Bailiffs & Princel Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or by the Major part of them may & shall be & each of them may & shall be for ever hereafter Justices of us our heirs & succrs to preserve & keep & shall cause to be preserved and kept the peace of us our heirs & succrs in the Boro afsd & the circuit & precincts thereof which sd Recorder & his depy & the afsd Alderman to be elected as afsd & each of them shall take his Corpl Oath befe the Mayor for the time being & two aldermen of the Boro afsd for the time being well & faithfully to execute the Office of Justices of the peace And that the sd Mayor & Recorder in his absence togr with the afsd Alderman to be nominated & elected a Justice of the peace as afsd or any two of them (of whom we will the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being shall be one) shall have full power & authority to enquire coneg all trespasses misprisons & other misdemeanors & inferior offences defaults & articles whatsr done moved or committed or hereafter to be had done or committed within the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thereof which befe the Keepers & Justices of the peace in any County of our Kingdom of England may & ought to be enquired into So Nevertheless that they any or either of them shall not in anywise hereafter proceed in the determinon of any treason misprison of treason murder or felony or of any other matter touching the loss of life or limb within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof witht the special mandate of us our heirs or succrs And that no Justice of the peace of us our heirs or succrs shall in anywise enter to do or execute any thing within the afsd Boro the liberties or precincts thereof which to the Office of Justice of the peace be-

longeth to be then done Also we will & do by these presents ordain & appoint that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being before he be admitted to execute the sd office of Justice of the Boro afsd shall take his Corpl Oath rightfully & faithfully to execute the sd office & the oath in that behalf provided & required to be taken by Justices of the peace by the laws & statutes of this our Kingdom of England befe his predecessor the last Mayor of the Boro afsd who shall be then living And that every person after he shall go out of the office of Mayor of the Boro afsd by virtue of these our letters patent shall & may have full power & authority of giving & administering such oaths as afsd to the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being his succr without any o<sup>r</sup> warrant or commission to be obtained or procured from us our heirs or succrs And that the recorder & last predecessor of every Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being & each of them shall take his Corpl Oath rightfully & faithfully to execute the office of Justice of the Peace & the oath in that behf provided & required to be taken by Justices of the peace by the Laws & statutes of this Kingdom of England before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being & that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being having first taken his oath in form afsd shall & may by virtue of these presents have full power & authority of giving & administering such oaths as afsd to such Justices of the peace or any of them without any other warrant & commission to be obtained or procured from us our heirs or succrs We have also given & granted & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs give & grant to the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being full power & authority of giving & administering reasonable oaths as well to the Aldermen Bailiffs Princl Burgeses Chief steward recorder & his Depy Chambn Town Clerk Serjeants at Mace as to all others the officers appted or to be appted by virtue of these presents for the true & faithful exeon of their officies resply & that witht any o<sup>r</sup> writ or warrant to be hereafter in any wise procured & obtained from us or our succrs And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgeses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs from henceforth for ever shall have within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof one prison or Goal for the detaining in carcerating & safe custy of all & singr person or psons attached or to be attached & to be adjudged in the sd Goal

or prison to be in anywise found within the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thof there to continue until they shall be thence delivered by due course of law. And that the Bailiffs of the Boro afsd for the time being be & shall be Keepers of the same Goal And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiff & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that the Mayor or recorder or his Depy in his absence & the Aldn afsd being as is afsd Justices of the peace within the Boro afsd or two of them (of whom we will that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being shall be one) shall & may by their warrant in writg signed & subscribed with their proper hands send such psons who shall be hafter taken annested attached or found in the Borough afsd the liberties or precincts thereof for treason murder felony manslaughter or robbery done or to be done or for suspicion of felony to the Common Goal of our Coy of Carmn there to remain & to be tried & answer for their offences before the Justices of us our heirs or succrs assigned or to be assigned to hear & determine such misdemeanors committed in the sd Coy or the Justices assd or to be assd to deliver the Goals of the sd Coy of Carmn Willing & by these presents for us our heirs & succrs commanding as well the sheriff of the Coy of Carmn as the keeper of the Common Goal of the sd Coy for the time being that they & each of them upon such warrant by the afsd Justices of the peace within the Boro of Kidwelly for the time being or by any two of them (of which we will that the Mayor shall be one) to be made & directed to them or either of them to rece & safely keep all such pson & psons so as afsd by the afsd Justices of the peace within the Boro afsd to be hereafter taken arrested attached or found in the afd Boro of Kidwelli the liberties or precincts thof for the afsd murder manslaughter or o<sup>r</sup> robbery or felony done or to be done or for suspicion of felony & so as afsd sent to the afsd common Goal of the Coy of Carmn afsd there to continue to be tried & answer before the Justices of us our heirs & succrs for the time being assd or to be assd to hear & determine such misdemeanor committed in the sd Coy or the Justices for the time being assd or to be assd to deliver the Goal afsd & these our letters patent or the enrollment thof shall in this behalf be to the afsd Sheriff & Keeper of the Common Goal of the County of Carmn for the time being a sufficient warrt & discharge Also we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd



Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that it shall & may be lful for the Mayor & Recorder of the Boro afsd for the time being & the Deputy of the sd Recorder in his absence & of the afsd Aldn elected & to be elected as afd a Justice of the Peace within the Boro afsd or any two of them (of whom we will the Mayor for the time being shall be one) from time to time for ever hereafter to have hold & keep in some convenient place within the Boro afsd General Sessions of the Peace & in the same sessions to do execute handle hear & determine all & singr acts matters Businesses causes & things whatsr in as ample mmer & form as any other our Justices within any County City Boro or Town Incorporate within this Kingdom of England may & can do execute handle hear & determine the same without any other warrt or grant to be from us our heirs or succrs in any wise obtained prosecuted or sought. So Nevertheless that they do not proceed to the determinon of any treason misprison of treason murder or felony or of any other matter touching the loss of life or limb within the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thereof. And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs shall & may from henceforth for ever have within the Boro afsd a discreet & fit person who shall be & be called the Steward of the Boro afsd & for the better execn of our will & grant in this behalf we have afsd nominated constituted & made & do by these presents for us our heirs & successors assign nominate make & constitute our beloved John Howell to be the first & now steward of the Boro afsd to continue in the sd office during the pleasure of the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) which sd Jno Howell & every o' pson hereafter to be elected & nominated to the office of Steward of the Boro afsd befe he shall be admitted to execute the sd office shall take his corpl oath before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being well faithfully & rightfully in & by all things to do & execute all & singr those things which belong to the office of Steward of the Boro afsd & that from time to time & at all times after the death or amotion of the afsd Jno Howell it shall & may be lful for the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being or the Major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) to elect & prefer one other up-

right & discreet man to be steward of the Boro afd to continue in the sd office during pleasure as afd first takg his corpl Oath in form afd & so on as often as the case shall so happen And that the afd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd & their succrs shall & may from henceforth for ever have in the Boro afd one upright & discreet man to be elected in manner hafter mentd who shall be called the Town Clerk of the Boro afd And for the better exeon of our will & grant in this behalf we have assigned nominated constituted & made & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs assign nominate constitute & make our beloved Michl Cubbydge to be the first and now Town Clerk of the Boro afd to continue in the sd office during the pleasure of the Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor of the Boro afd shall be one) which sd Michl Cubbydge & every o<sup>r</sup> pson hafter to be nominated & elected to the office of Town Clerk of the Boro afd before he shall be admitted to execute the sd office shall first take his corpl oath before the Mayor afd for the time being well & faithfully to execute the sd office of Town Clerk of the Boro afd & that he shall & will do & execute all & singr those things which belong to the office of Town Clerk of the Boro afd And that from time to time & at all times after the death or amotion of the afd Michl Cubbydge it shall & may be lful for the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being or the Major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor for the time being shall be one) to elect & prefer one other upright & discreet man learned in the laws of England to be Town Clerk of the Boro afd to continue in the sd office during the pleasure of the Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Chief Burgesses of the Boro afd for the time being or the Major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) first takg his Corpl oath in form afd & so on as often as the case shall so happen And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses & their succrs that there shall & may be from henceforth for ever in the Boro afd two Officers who shall be & be called Serjeants at Mace which sd Serjeants at Mace shall be attending from time to time upon the Mayor of the Boro afd for the time being & shall be from time to time nominated & elected by the Mayor of the sd Boro for the time being And that they so elected & nominated to the offices of Serjts at Mace shall

be in due manner sworn well & faithfully to execute the sd office before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being & we do depute that they the sd Serjeants at Mace shall bear & carry gilt or silver Maces engraven & wrought with our arms in all places within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof before the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being & that the afsd Serjeants at Mace be Ministers at the Hundred Court & of our Court of Record within the Boro afsd to execute the processes distresses mandates & precepts of the sd Courts in due mmer & accdng to the exigency of right & law & shall do & execute all & singr other things within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof which are customarily and lawfully done & executed by Serjts at Mace in any other Boro or Town incorporate within this Kingdom of England And further of our more ample special grace certain knowledge & mere mocon We will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they may have the court or hundred of Kidwelly & that they may have hold & keep the Hundred Court of Kidwy from time to time once every Tuesday three weeks yearly for ever to be holden before the Mayor & Steward of the Boro afsd for the time being or one of them & that he and and they shall & may in the same Court have hold handle hear & determine all & singr such & the like complaints pleas suits actions matters & things whatsoever as in the same court by any o<sup>r</sup> pson or psons or before any o<sup>r</sup> pson or psons htofore have been had holden handled heard & determined by any lful means usage or custom whatsr & by such & the like process & means as within the sd Hundd of Kidwelly have been htofore used as in any lful mmer ought to be used & that witht the hindrance molestation or disturbance of us our heirs or succrs whatsr And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs and Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succors shall & may have hold within the Boro afsd a Court of Record before the Mayor & recorder of the sd Boro for the time being or eir of them or their sufft Depys in some convenient place within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof on Monday in every 15 days & so on from 15 days to 15 days for ever & that they the sd Mayor & Recorder of the sd Boro for the time being or one of them by themselves or by his or their sufft depy or depys shall have full power & authy from time to time of hearg

& determing in the sd Court by Plaint in the same Court to be levied on all & all manner of Debts acctv covts contracts trespasses vie & armiss or orwise done or to be done in compt of us our heir or succrs covts detainers contempts frauds & o' actions & things real psonal & mixed wheresr within the sd Boro of Kidwy & the limits bounds & liberties thereof in any wise arising or to arise happg or to happen provided such debts acctv contracts covts trespasses & o' actions & pleas do not exceed the sum or value of £200 & that the sd Mayor & recorder of the Boro afsd or eir of them or his or their depty for the time being upon such contempts pleas plaints & actions shall & may have power faculty & authority to implead the Defts agst whom such plaints pleas or actions shall happen to be moved or levied in the afsd Court by summons attacmt or distringas to be directed to the serjeants at Mace of the sd Boro for the time being & for want of chattels & lands of such Defendts within the Boro afsd or the liberties thereof where or by wch they cannot be summoned attached or distrained to attach or take their bodies accdg to the customs used in any or Boro or Town within this Kingdom of England & separately to hear & determine all & singr the actions pleas & plaints afsd & to bring into Court & determine by the same processes judgments & execons of Jdgmts whby the like pleas are in the sd Boro or in any other Boro or Town incorporate brought into Court & determined & may hope & do execons of the sd processes & Judgments by the serjeants at Mace afsd And further we will & firmly enjoining do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs order & commd the Steward & under Steward of us our heirs & succrs of our Ldship of Kidwy for the time being that they & each of them do from time to time hold & keep & cause to be holden & kept all & singr the Courts leet of the afsd Lordsp of Kidwy that is to say of the Commotes of Iskenne Cornewallan & Kidwelly & all the Courts called the Month courts of the Commote of Kidwy within the Boro afsd & not elsewhere any statute act usage custom or prescription or any o' matter cause or thing to the conty thof notwithstg And Whereas the Lord Henry the 6th late King of Engd by his letters patent sealed with his seal of the Duchy of Lancaster bearing date . . . . . did grant that the burgesses of the Boro afsd their heirs & succrs & their servants also the tents of the sd Burgesses their heirs & succrs residing within the Boro afsd or any of them shod not at any time thafter for ever be convicted or tryed within

the Ldshps of Kidwy Cornwallan & Iskennen by any Foreigners but by entire Englishmen of the sd Boro & not by Welshmen as by the sd letters patent among other things more fully & manifestly appears And Whereas we are informed that part of the now Burgesses & inhabitants of the Boro afsd are Welshmen by reason whereof many strifes & inconveniences do arise in the Boro afsd by means of the afsd Grant we therefore willing that such strifes & inconveniences within the Boro afsd may from henceforth be for ever taken away of our more abundant special grace certain knowledge & mere mocon do will & by these presents grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs & their servants & also their tenants within the Boro afsd residing shall not nor shall any of them from henceforth be convicted or tried within the Ldships of Kidwy Cornwallan & Iskennen but by the Burgesses of the Boro afsd as well entire Welshmen as Englishmen the afsd letters patent or any or matter cause or thing whatsr to the conty thof in any wise notwithstg Also we have grtd & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs of our special grace certain knowledge & mere mocon grant to the afsd Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being be and shall be the Escheator Coroner & Clerk of the Market of us our heirs & succrs within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof & that the afsd Thos Babington the now Mayor of the Boro afsd be the first & now Escheator Coroner & Clerk to the Market of us our heirs & succrs within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof to continue in the sd offices until he shall cease to be Mayor of the Boro afsd And that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being shall & may have full power & authy to do execute within the Boro afsd the limits & precincts thof all & singr those things which to the offices of Coroner Escheator & Clerk of the Market or any or either of them resply do belong or ought to be done & exted by the laws stats & customs of our Kingdom of Engd havg first taken the sevl oaths before the last Mayor for the time being well & faithfully to exte the sd sevl offices And that no other Coroner escheator or Clerk of the Market of us our heirs or succrs shall presume to enter or in anywise howsr to interfere to do any thing that to the offices of Coroner Escheator & Clerk of the Market resply or any or eir of them belongeth in the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thof unless for want of a Mayor of the Boro afsd or



his Deputy or Minister for the time being And further of our more abundant special grace certain knowlge & mere mocon we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their Succrs that they & their succrs from henceforth for ever may have hold & enjoy all & all mmer of goods & chattels waived & strayed & all & all mmer of goods & chattels of all & singr felons fugitives felons of themselves & those put in exigent & Deodands & all forfeitures of all & singr the tents Burgesses inhabits & residents of the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thereof & all other Goods & chattels forfeited & to be forfeited in the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thof from time to time happg Coming increasing or arising & that it shall & may be lful for them the sd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgss of the Boro afsd & their succrs by themselves or their ministers witht the hindrance of us our heirs or succrs or of any the officers or ministers of our said heirs & succrs to be seized & possed of the Goods & chattels of other the pmes afsd & to rece & retain the same to the use of them the said Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgss of the Boro afsd & their succrs We have also given & grtd & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs give & grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiff & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs may from henceforth for ever have all & all mmer of fines issues & amerciaments for trespasses contempts defaults & o<sup>r</sup> offences whatsr from time to time happening coming or arising within the Boro afsd the liberties and precincts thereof from the Exchr of us our heirs & succrs within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thof happg or arisg to be levied by the Bailiffs of the Boro afsd for the time being So that no Sheriff under Sheriff Bailiff or any or Minister of us our heirs or succrs may enter into the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thof for anything to their offices resply belonging to be in that behalf done unless for want of Bailiffs of the Boro afsd for the time being And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs princel Burgesses & other the Burgesses & free men of the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thof & their succrs or any or either of them shall not be put or impaned to appear in any Juries of Assize recognizances or Inquisitions whatsr befe ye Justices of us our heirs & succrs assigned or to be assd to take the Assizes or writs of Nisi Prius

in the Coy of Carmn or befe any o<sup>r</sup> Justices of us our heirs or succrs whomsr assigned or to be assigned to take the assizes or writs of Nisi Prius in the Coy of Carmn or befe any other Justices of us our heirs or succrs whomsr assigned or to be assigned to hear & determine treasons felonies & other misdemeanors or before any Eschr Coroner or Clk of the Market of us our heirs or succrs out of the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thereof nor shall they or any of them in anywise forfeit any issues or amerciaments on that acct to us our heirs or succrs unless they or any of them have lands & tents out of the sd Boro the limits & precincts thereof for which he or they ought to be chged & that the Mayor of the Boro afsd for the time being & his succrs as long as they shall continue in the office of Mayor & also the Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgesses of the sd Boro for the time being so long as they shall continue in the offices of Aldn Bailiffs & princel Burgs of the sd Boro shall not nor shall eir of them be put or empannelled to appear befe us our heirs or succrs or any of the Judges or Justices of us our heirs or succrs at Westminster in any Juries of Assize or Inquisition whatsr nor shall they or any of them forfeit any Issues or amerciaments on that acct to us our heirs or succrs in anywise but they & every of them shall from time to time for ever be thof quit & dischg'd & also all fines & amerciaments for trespasses defaults contempts & o<sup>r</sup> Debts whatsr as well of all men as of all the Burgs & Inhabits of the afsd Boro the limits liberties or precincts thof as well before us our heirs & succrs & befe any the Judges & Justices of us our heirs & succrs in any court of us our heirs & succrs at Westmr as befe the Justices assd & to be assd to take the Assizes & delr the Goal or the Justices assd or to be assd to hear & determine trespasses & o<sup>r</sup> misdemsrs & o<sup>r</sup> the Justices of us our heirs & succrs whomsr And that it shall be lful for them the sd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd for the time being & their succrs by thselves or their Ministers to levy perceive & have the sd fines issues & amerciaments witht the obstruction or hindrance of us our heirs or succrs whomsr And further of our more ample special Grace certain knowledge & mere mocon we have given & grtd & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs give & grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs from henceforth for ever shall & may have the return of all writs precepts bills & warrants of us our heirs & succrs & the exeon thof & also of sum-

monses estreats & precepts And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs that no Stranger or Foreigner (unless he be a freeman of the Boro afsd) shall from henceforth for ever sell or expose to sale any Goods wares or merchandizes within the Boro afsd the Liberties & Precincts thof orwise than by wholesale & other than all necessities for the Victualling of the Borough afsd unless it be at the time of fairs & market to be holden within the Boro afsd nor shall hold any shop nor use any mystery occupon or manual act within the Boro afsd the liberties or precincts thof without the special licence of the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd or the major part of them (of whom we will the Mayor shall be one) in writing under their seal upon pain of the displeasure of us our heirs & succrs & under such o<sup>r</sup> pains penalties & forfeitures as by the Laws & statutes of our Kingdom of Engd may be inflicted or imposed upon such offenders for their disobedience & contempt in that behalf And further we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs give & grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro of Kidwy afsd & their succrs the special licence & free & lawful power faculty & authority of havg purchsg receivg & possessing to them & their succrs for ever Manors Messes Lands tents Meadows feedings & Pastures Woods rectories tithes rents revenues & o<sup>r</sup> hdts whatsr as well of us our heirs & succrs as of any o<sup>r</sup> pson or psons whomsr which are not held immedly of us our heirs or succrs in Capite nor by Knights service nor of any o<sup>r</sup> pson or psons by Knights service provided such manors messes lands tents & o<sup>r</sup> hdts do not exceed in the whole the clear yrly value of £200 above all chges & reprises The statute of Mortmain or any o<sup>r</sup> stats act ordinance or proviso htofore had made ordained or provided or any o<sup>r</sup> matter cause or thing whatsr to the conty thof in any wise notwithstg We also give & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to each & every the subject & subjects whomsr of us our heirs & succrs special licence & lful & free power faculty & authy that they or any or eir of them may lfully give grant sell demise or alien to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiff and Burgs of the Boro of Kidwy afsd & their succrs any manors messes rectories tithes woods lands tents or o<sup>r</sup> Hdts whatsr which are not holden of us our heirs & succrs immedly in capite nor by Knights service nor any other pson or psons by Knights service not exceedg in the



whole the clear yearly value of £20 above all taxes & reprises The stat<sup>e</sup> of Mortmain or any o<sup>r</sup> stat<sup>e</sup> act ordinances or proviso hithfore had made Published ordained or provided or other matter cause or thing whatsr to the conty thof in any wise notwithstanding And Whereas we are informed that within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thof 3 fairs are now holden & kept from time to time whof the memy of man is not to the contry are accustd to have been holden & kept yrly in divers sevl places (i.e.) one within the walls of the sd Boro on the feast of St. Magdalen another at Llangendeirne within 3 miles of the sd Boro & within the circuits & liberties thof upon the Feasts of St James the Apostle & the 3rd within the walls of the sd Boro upon the feast of St Luke the Evangelist & the Mayor & Commonalty of the Boro afsd have been accustd to take & rece & do now take & rece all profits commodities Stallage Piccage tolls Tollage Customs & profits whatsr thence comg And that many inconveniences do arise because the sd fair now accustomed to be held at Llangendeirne afsd is not held & kept within the Boro afsd We desiring that the afsd Boro may be bettered of our special grace certain knowldge & mere mocon do will & by these prests for us our heirs & succrs do grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs may from henceforth for ever have hold & keep within the Boro afsd as well the afs 3 fairsd yearly for ever upon the same days & times on which the same have heretofore of old been accustd to be holden & kept as two other fairs to be hafter yrly holden the 1st of the sd fairs to begin on the 13th day of May & to be kept & contd durg that whole day & the 2nd fair to begin on the 14th day of Octr & to be kept & continued durg that whole day togr with a court of Pie powder to be there holden at the time of all the afsd fairs & with all the liberties & free customs tolls stallage piccage fines amer-ciaments & all o<sup>r</sup> profits commodities advantges & emoluments whatsr to such fairs & court of Pie powder afsd belg appertgg happg or arisg And further of our more abundant specl grace certain knowlge & mere mocon we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succors grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they & their succrs shall & may henceforth for ever have hold & keep within the Boro afsd the liberties & precincts thof two markets in every week yearly for ever one of them to be holden & kept on Friday & the o<sup>r</sup> on Tuesday within the Boro afsd for ever provided

& upon condon that the sevl markets now there holden & accustomed to be holden on Wedy & Satdy be hafter altogr taken away & discontinued & that at the time of the afsd Markets to be holden on Tuesday and Friday all & singr psons comg & resorting to the sd Markets may from henceforth for ever buy sell & expose to sale as well all & singr Goods wares merchandizes Grain & things whatsr as all & all manner of Cattle Hogs Sheep horses mares geldings & poultry & all & all mmer of o<sup>r</sup> animals & chattels whatsr live or dead at their pleasure accdg to the laws customs & stats of this cur Kingdm of Engd payg the tolls & customs thof due to them the sd Mayor aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afs for the time being to the pper use & behoof of them the sd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs for the relief of the poor inhabits of the sd Boro & o<sup>r</sup> charges & exps of the sd Boro togr with the afsd Court of Piepowder to be there holden at the time of the sd Markets & with all & all manner of liberties & free customs tolls stallage Fines Amercts & all o<sup>r</sup> pfts commodities advantges & emoluments whatsr to such Markets and Court of Piepowder belg happg or arising Wherefore we will & firmly injoining do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs order & command that the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgss of the Boro afsd & their succrs may have hold & enjoy the sd fairs & Markets by these presents above grtd with all their profits accdg to the true intent of these presents witht the molestation disturbance or Grievance of us our heirs or succrs or any of the officers or Ministers of us our heirs or succrs whomsr So nevthless that the afsd Fairs & Markets or any or eir of them be not to the annoyance or prejudice of o<sup>r</sup> fairs or markets there near adjoining And further of our more ample special grace & of our certain knowledge & mere mocon we have given granted pardoned remised & reled & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs give grant pardon remise & rel to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs All & singr rents issues revenues fee farms arrears rents & yearly profits whatsr due arising coming pyble & to be paid to us or any of our predecessors or ancestors Kings or Queens of England or Dukes of Lancaster & to us not yet pd for cr in respect of any lauds tents or hdts or any liberties or priviledges given or grtd to them the sd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd or any of their predecessors by whatsr name or names or by whatsr incorporation they have been heretofore called or

incorpe To hold to them the sd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burges-  
 ses of the Boro afsd & their succrs for ever as of our Gift witht  
 acct or any or things to be thfore to us our heirs & succrs in any  
 wise rendered pd or done And further we will & do by these  
 presents for us our heirs & succrs grant & confirm unto the  
 afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs  
 all & all mmer of liberties Franchises Immunities exemptions  
 priviledges acquittances jurisdictions mills lands Tents meadows  
 feedings void ground commons free fishing free warren Buildgs  
 Ruinous places toll Country Rents & hdtis whatsr by any letters  
 patent or deeds of any or eir our Predecessors or Ancestors  
 htofore grtd or confirmed which the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs &  
 Burgs of the Boro afsd now have hold use & enjoy or which  
 any of them or their predecessors by whatsr name or names or  
 by whatsr Incorporation or by pretence of any Incorpn whatsr  
 htofore have held used or enjoyed or ought to have use hold  
 or enjoy of Este of Inhance by reason or pretence of any charter  
 or letters patent by any of our predecessors or Ancestors late  
 Kings or Queens of Engd or dukes of Lancaster in any wise  
 htofore made grtd or confirmed or by any or lful means Right  
 title custom usage or prescription htofore lfully used had or  
 accustd altho the same or any or eir of them have not been  
 htofore used or have been abused or discontinued & altho they  
 any or eir of them are or have been forfeited or lost To be had  
 holden & enjoyed by the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses  
 of the Boro afsd & their succrs for ever Yielding thfore yearly  
 to us our heir & succrs by the hands of the recr of Kidwy for  
 the time being £13. 14. 0½. of lful moy of Engd to be pd at the  
 feasts of Easter & St Michael the Archg by equal portions in  
 lieu of all customs services & demands Wherefore we will &  
 firmly injoining do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs  
 order & commd that the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs  
 afsd & their succrs shall & may fully & wholly for ever have  
 use hold & enjoy all the liberties free customs priviledges author-  
 ities jurisdictions & acquittces accdg to the tenor & effect of  
 these our letters patent witht the obstruction or hindrance of  
 us our heirs & succrs whomsr Willg that they the sd Mayor  
 Aldn Bailiffs & Burgs of the Boro afsd & their succrs or any  
 or eir of them by reason of the premises or any part thof be  
 not therein hindered molested vexed aggrieved or in any wise  
 disturbed by us our heirs or succrs the Justices Sheriffs Escheat-  
 ors or ors the Bailiff or Ministers of us our heirs & succrs whomsr

Willing & by these presents ordering & commdg as well the treasurer Chancellor & Barons of the Exchr at Westmr as ors the Justices & officers of us our heirs & succrs as also our Atty Genl for the time being & every of them & all or our Officers & Ministers whomsr that neir they nor any or eir of them do prosecute or continue or make or cause to be prosecuted or contd any writ or summons whereupon a warrant or any other our writ or writs or process whatsr do issue agst the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgss of the Boro afsd or any or either of them for any matters causes things offences claims or usurpations or any of them by them or any of them due claimed sued taken had or usurped before the makg of these presents Willing also that the Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs or any of them be not by any Justice Officer or Minister afsd in or for the due use claim or abuse of other liberties franchises & Jurisdictions within the Boro afsd the limits or precincts thereof before the makg of these our letters patent in any wise molested or hindered or compelled to render for them or any of them Also we will & do by these presents for us our heirs & succrs grant to the afsd Mayor Aldn Bailiffs & Burgesses of the Boro afsd & their succrs that they shall & may have these our letters patent as well under our great seal of England as under our seal of the Duchy of Lancaster in due manner made & sealed without fine or fee great or small in our Hanaper altho Mencon &c In Witness &c Given under our private seal at our palace at Westminster the 20th day of July in the 16th year of our reign of England France & Ireland of Scotland the 51st

‘EDWARD ANTHONY.

1771, May 8.

Translated from an office copy of the record  
said to be remaining in the Duchy Court of Lancaster

JOHN TURMAN, Inner Temple Lane.

Attested as a Copy of the Translation of this  
Charter this 4th day of April, 1792, by us,

Amos Clerk, } Clerks to Mr. Foukes  
John Browne, } Hart St, Bloomsbury.’

## APPENDIX M.

‘ VICTORIA by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas by the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 it was enacted that if on the Petition to Us of the Inhabitant householders of any Town or Towns or District in England or of any of those inhabitants praying for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation We by the advice of Our Privy Council should think fit by Charter to create such Town Towns or District or any part thereof specified in the Charter with or without any adjoining place a Municipal Borough and to incorporate the inhabitants thereof it should be lawful for Us by the Charter to extend to that Municipal Borough and the inhabitants thereof so incorporated the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act And it was further enacted that every Petition for a Charter under the said Act should be referred to a Committee of the Lords of Our Privy Council (in the said Act called the Committee of Council) and that one month at least before the Petition should be taken into consideration by the Committee of Council notice thereof and of the time when it would be so taken into consideration should be published in the London Gazette and otherwise in such manner as the Committee should direct for the purpose of making it known to all persons interested And it was further enacted that where We by a Charter should extend the Municipal Corporations Acts to a Municipal Borough it should be lawful for Us by the Charter to do all or any of the following things (a) To fix the number of Councillors and to fix the number and boundaries of the Wards (if any) and to assign the number of Councillors to each Ward and (b) To fix the years days and times for the retirement of the first Aldermen and Councillors and (c) To fix such days times and places and nominate such persons to perform such duties and make such other temporary modifications of the Municipal Corporations Acts as might appear to Us to be necessary or proper for making those Acts applicable in the case of the first constitution of a Municipal Borough And that the years times and places fixed by the Charter and the persons nominated therein to perform any duties should as regarded the Borough named in the Charter be respectively



substituted in the Municipal Corporations Acts for the years days times places officers and persons therein mentioned and the persons so nominated should have the like powers and be subject to the like obligations and penalties as the officers and persons mentioned in those Acts for whom they would be respectively substituted And that subject to the provisions of the Charter authorised thereby the Municipal Corporations Acts should on the Charter coming into effect apply to the Municipal Borough to which they should be extended by the Charter and where the first Mayor Aldermen and Councillors or any of them should be named in the Charter should apply as if they were elected under the Municipal Corporations Acts and where they should not be so named should apply to their first election And whereas certain inhabitant householders of the Poor Law Parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within did in the month of September One thousand eight hundred and eighty three petition Us for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation And whereas such petition was referred to a Committee of Our Privy Council and one month at least before the same was taken into consideration by the said Committee notice thereof and of the time when the same was so to be taken into consideration was duly published in the London Gazette and otherwise as directed by the Committee And whereas Our Privy Council have recommended Us to grant this Charter of Incorporation We therefore as well by virtue of our Royal Prerogative as in pursuance of and in accordance with the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 or any other Act or Acts and of all other powers and authorities enabling Us in this behalf by and with the advice of Our Privy Council Do hereby grant order and declare as follows (1) The District situate within the limits set forth in the first Schedule to these Presents is hereby created a Municipal Borough by the name of the "Borough of Kidwelly" (2) The inhabitants of the said Borough of Kidwelly within the limits set forth in the first Schedule to these Presents and their successors Shall be and are hereby declared to be one body politic and corporate by the name of the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Kidwelly with perpetual succession and a Common Seal and may assume armorial bearings (which shall be duly enrolled in the Heralds College) and may take and hold any lands tenements and hereditaments which may be vested in them by Scheme under Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and such other lands and hereditaments as well without as within

the Borough as may be necessary for the site of the buildings and premises required for the official purposes of the Corporation and other the purposes of the Municipal Corporations Acts provided that such other lands do not exceed in value the amount of One hundred pounds by the year (3) The Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the said Borough shall have the powers authorities immunities and privileges usually vested by law in the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of a Municipal Borough and the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Acts shall extend to the said Borough and the inhabitants thereof incorporated by this Charter (4) The number of Councillors of the Borough shall be twelve (5) For the purpose of making the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 applicable in the case of the first constitution of the said Borough We do hereby so far only as regards the first Burgess List first Burgess Roll and first election of Councillors Mayor Aldermen Auditors Assessors Town Clerk and Treasurer for the Borough fix and order as follows:—(a) The Town Hall in the Town of Kidwelly shall be the place at which any list notice or document required to be affixed on or near the outer door of the Town Hall is to be affixed and (b) Both in relation to the matters aforesaid and also in relation to any such election as aforesaid which it may be necessary to hold before a valid election can be held under the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 Daniel Charles Edwards of Kidwelly aforesaid Solicitor or in case of his death inability refusal or default Mansel Rees of Llanelly Solicitor shall perform the duties of the Town Clerk and Thomas Morgan of Kidwelly aforesaid Gentleman or in case of his death inability refusal or default David Harries of Kidwelly aforesaid Gentleman shall perform the duties of the Mayor and the Assessors for revising the Burgess List and the separate list of persons qualified to be Councillors and the said Thomas Morgan or in case of his death inability refusal or default the said David Harries shall perform the duties of the Mayor and Aldermen respectively as returning officer and of the Mayor as summoner of the first meeting of the Council and of the Mayor or Chairman of the meeting for the election of the Mayor Aldermen Town Clerk and Treasurer And the said persons shall be substituted in the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 for the said Town Clerk Mayor Assessors Aldermen and Chairman respectively so far as relates to the matters aforesaid and (c) The first election of Councillors shall take place on the second day of November One thousand eight hundred and eighty five and

the first meeting of the Council of the Borough shall be held on the ninth day of November One thousand eight hundred and eighty five (6) The years and days specified in the second Schedule to these Presents shall be the years and days for the retirement of the first Aldermen and Councillors who shall retire in the manner and at the times therein designated (7) Subject to these Presents and the provisions and directions in the second Schedule thereto the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 shall apply to the determination of the qualifications of the first Burgesses the making out signing delivering inspection completion publication commencement and continuance of the First Burgess Lists and Burgess Rolls the claims objections and determinations with regard to the first Burgess Lists or Rolls the holding adjournments and decisions of the first revision Courts the nominations elections and continuance in office of the first Mayor Aldermen Councillors Auditors and Assessors the appointment and continuance in office of the first Town Clerk and Treasurer the first meeting and quarterly meeting of the Town Council and all matters and things touching and concerning the above and the dates and times in the said Act mentioned shall be the dates and times on at during within or for which the matters aforesaid and the various acts and things in relation thereto shall take place be done be estimated or be calculated.'

#### FIRST SCHEDULE.

##### *Metes and Bounds of the Borough.*

'The area of the Borough created by the Charter shall be co-extensive with the area of the old Borough which was co-extensive with what before the twenty fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty four was the area of the Poor Law Parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within.'

#### SECOND SCHEDULE.

'The one third of the Councillors who are elected by the smallest number of Votes shall go out of office on 1st November 1886 The one third of the Councillors who are elected by the next smallest number of Votes shall go out of office on 1st November 1887 The remaining one third of the Councillors shall go out of office on 1st November 1888 The one half of the Alder-



men who first go out of office shall be those who are elected by the smallest number of Votes and shall go out of office on 9th Nov. 1888 The remaining one half of the Aldermen shall go out of office on 9th November 1891 If any Councillors or any Aldermen have obtained an equal number of Votes or have been elected without a Poll so that it cannot be determined which of them has the smallest number of Votes the Council of the Borough shall at the first or second quarterly meeting and not later by a majority of Votes or in case of equality of Votes by the casting Vote of the Chairman determine who are to go out of office at the times above specified respectively In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent Witness Ourselves at Westminster the twentieth day of July in the forty ninth year of Our reign By warrant under the Queen's Sign Manual

‘MUIR MACKENZIE.’

*At the Court at Windsor, the 24th day of June, 1885. Present—  
The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.*

‘Whereas there was this day read at the Board a Report of a Committee of the Lords of Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council dated the 1st day of June 1885 in the words following—Your Majesty having been pleased to refer unto this Committee by Your Order in Council of the 23rd day of August 1883 the humble Petition of certain Inhabitant Householders of the Poor Law Parish of S. Mary Kidwelly within in the County of Carmarthen praying for the grant of a Municipal Charter of Incorporation The Lords of the Committee having taken the said Petition into consideration and being of opinion that a Scheme for the adjustment of the property rights and liabilities of the existing Corporation of the Borough of Kidwelly and for other purposes would be necessary in the event of a Charter of Incorporation being granted their Lordships after reference to the Secretary of State and the Local Government Board settled a Scheme for those purposes which said Scheme they caused to be published in conformity with the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Acts 1882 and not having received any Petition against the said Scheme their Lordships do agree humbly to report as their opinion to Your Majesty that it may be advisable for Your Majesty to confirm the said Scheme Her

Majesty having taken the said Report into consideration together with the said Scheme (a copy whereof is hereunto annexed) was pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council to approve thereof and to confirm and doth hereby confirm the said Scheme

‘ C. L. PEEL. ’

*Municipal Corporations Act 1882.*

SCHEME FOR THE BOROUGH OF KIDWELLY.

‘ Whereas by the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 it is enacted that where a petition for a Charter of incorporation is referred to the Committee of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council and it is proposed by the Charter to extend the Municipal Corporations Act to the municipal borough to be created by the charter the said Committee of Council may settle a scheme for the purposes in the said Act named and containing such provisions as are in the said Act particularised And whereas certain inhabitant householders of the Poor Law Parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within in the county of Carmarthen have petitioned Her Majesty the Queen praying for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation And whereas the said petition for a charter has been referred to the Committee of Council and it is proposed to create the said district a municipal borough and to incorporate the inhabitants thereof and by the Charter to extend the Municipal Corporations Acts to the municipal borough to be created by the charter And whereas Kidwelly is a place named in the Schedule to the Municipal Corporations Act 1883 and the area of the said place is coextensive with the area of the municipal borough proposed to be created by the said Charter And whereas by the Municipal Corporations Act 1883 it is enacted that nothing in that Act shall prevent the application to any place of any charter applying the Municipal Corporations Acts which Her Majesty may be pleased to grant or affect anything done in pursuance of those Acts or any scheme thereunder and shall not affect the operation of any such charter thing or scheme save that nothing in the said Acts or scheme shall authorise the establishment or continuance of any court for the trial of civil actions and that nothing in that Act shall affect the right to the benefit of any charity or shall alter or confer any

power of altering the defined charitable purposes (if any) to which any property was by law applicable at the passing of that Act And whereas the Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Kidwelly are a local authority within the meaning of Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 And whereas the said Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs and Burgesses are a body corporate under and by virtue of certain royal charters And whereas the area of the proposed borough as part of the parish of Kidwelly was before the date of the commencement of this scheme within the district of the Llanelly Union as the rural sanitary authority of the said Union and the said guardians as such rural sanitary authority are a local authority within the meaning of Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and it is expedient that all property and liabilities vested in or attaching to such rural sanitary authority should so far as the same relate to the area of the borough created by the charter be transferred to the new corporation in manner provided by this Scheme And whereas the highways within the area of the borough created by the charter were before the date of the commencement of this Scheme repairable by the Kidwelly Borough Highway Board by rates levied within the borough under the provisions of the Acts relating to highways and such highway board is a local authority within the meaning of Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and it is expedient that all property and liabilities vested in or attaching to the said highway board should be transferred to the new corporation in manner provided by this Scheme And whereas it is expedient right and just that a Scheme should be settled pursuant to Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 containing the provisions hereinafter contained Now therefore the said Committee of Council have settled a Scheme containing the provisions herein and do hereby order and declare as follows (1) This Scheme may be cited for all purposes as the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 (2) This Scheme shall come into operation on the day of the first meeting of the Council of the municipal borough created by the charter above referred to or at the date of its confirmation by Parliament or Order in Council whichever is later This date is herein mentioned as the " commencement of this Scheme " (3) The Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said borough are herein referred to as the " Old Corporation " The corporation of the municipal borough created by the charter above mentioned is herein referred to as the " New Corporation "

(4) The municipal borough created by the charter above referred to shall be placed immediately on from and after the day of the first meeting of the Council of the municipal borough aforesaid within the jurisdiction of the Council of the said municipal borough as the Sanitary Authority and shall thereafter no longer be within the jurisdiction authority or district of the Rural Sanitary Authority of the Llanelly Union (5) Immediately from and after the commencement of this Scheme the Old Corporation shall be and the same is hereby abolished and shall thenceforth be dissolved and cease to exist together with all the franchises rights privileges powers jurisdiction authority and exemptions of the said Old Corporation and its members and officers as such of what kind soever they may be which have no pecuniary value (6) Immediately from and after the commencement of this Scheme the said Kidwelly Borough Highway Board shall be and is hereby abolished and shall thenceforth be dissolved and cease to exist (7) All property (not being property within the meaning of the second subsection of section 4 of the Municipal Corporations Act 1883 applicable to charity or applicable to defined charitable purposes at the passing of that Act) of any kind whatsoever possessed by or vested in the Old Corporation or any person or body in trust for it or any of its members as such or applicable for the benefit or under the direction of the Old Corporation or any of its members as such shall vest in the New Corporation and (save as is hereinafter expressly directed) shall by the New Corporation be held and applied exclusively for the municipal purposes of the municipal borough created as aforesaid and the public benefit of the inhabitants of the said borough (8) All market property possessed by or vested in the Old Corporation and all liabilities attaching to the Old Corporation in respect of the same shall immediately from and after the commencement of this scheme vest in and attach to the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the said municipal borough acting by the Council as the sanitary authority (9) All liabilities which immediately before the commencement of this Scheme attached to and were enforceable against the old corporation or the property thereof shall attach to and be enforceable against the New Corporation so far only as the property vested in it under paragraph 7 may extend to satisfy such liabilities and no further (10) Any investigation legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any debt liability penalty or forfeiture due to or incurred by or on behalf of the old Corpora-

tion before the commencement of this Scheme may be continued prosecuted or enforced by or against the New Corporation so far only as the property vested in it under paragraph 7 may extend to satisfy such liabilities and no further (11) Any sewers drains culverts water mains pipes or other sanitary works situate within the area of the borough created by the charter being the property of the Rural Sanitary Authority of the Llanelly Union and used by them for the purpose of the drainage water supply or cleansing of the said area and any liabilities attaching to the said rural sanitary authority in respect of the said area shall immediately from and after the commencement of this Scheme vest in and attach to the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the said Municipal Borough acting by the Council as the sanitary authority (12) All property and liabilities vested in or attaching to the Kidwelly Borough Highway Board shall immediately from the commencement of this Scheme vest in and attach to the New Corporation (13) The term "property" in this Scheme means and includes all property real and personal and all things in action and all rights of common or commonable rights and rights to toll and all franchises privileges and rights which have any pecuniary value and all charters records deeds books and documents all rights all claims to relief and all rights to avoid contracts or otherwise and includes any estate or interest legal or equitable in or in respect of any property so defined (14) The term "market property" in this Scheme means and includes rights to market tolls and all franchises privileges and rights relating to markets and all lands and premises used for the purpose of markets.

## APPENDIX N.

*At the Court at Balmoral, the 24th day of September, 1886.  
Present—The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.*

'Whereas there was this day read at the Board a Report of a Committee of the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council dated the 11th day of September 1886 in the words following Your Majesty having been pleased to refer unto this Committee by Your Order in Council of the 6th day of May 1886 the humble Petition of the Municipal Corporation of the Borough of Kidwelly in the County of Carmarthen praying for



a Scheme amending the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 and for a Scheme under the Municipal Corporations Acts 1882 and 1885 (for the adjustment of the property rights liabilities &c of the St Mary Kidwelly United District School Board and for other purposes) their Lordships after reference to the Secretary of State the Local Government Board and the Education Department settled a Scheme for those purposes which said Scheme they caused to be published in conformity with the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and not having received any Petition against the said Scheme their Lordships do agree humbly to report as their opinion to Your Majesty that it may be advisable for Your Majesty to confirm the said Scheme Her Majesty having taken the said Report into consideration together with the said Scheme (a copy whereof is hereunto annexed) was pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council to approve thereof and to confirm and doth hereby confirm the said Scheme

‘ C. W. PEEL.’

#### SCHEME 1886 FOR THE BOROUGH OF KIDWELLY.

‘ Whereas by an Order dated the fourteenth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty three made by the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education (hereinafter called the Education Department) under section 40 of the Elementary Education Act 1870 the parishes of St Mary Kidwelly Within and St Mary Without in the County of Carmarthen were constituted a United School District for which pursuant to the provisions of the Elementary Education Acts a School Board was formed by the name of the St Mary Kidwelly United District School Board And whereas by an Order of the Local Government Board under the Divided Parishes Acts dated November twenty third one thousand eight hundred and eighty three a part of the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Without was added to the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within which alterations so made was agreed to by the Education Department so far as any School Districts were affected but such portion so added to the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within was not included within the Municipal Borough hereinafter mentioned and is hereinafter referred to as “ The part of the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid And whereas on July twentieth one thousand eight

hundred and eighty five Her Majesty was pleased by Charter to extend the Municipal Corporation Acts to and to create a Municipal Borough the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within with the exception of the part of the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid " And whereas under Part XI. of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 a scheme called the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 was settled for the said Municipal Borough and was confirmed by Order in Council on the twenty fourth day of June one thousand eight hundred and eighty five And whereas on the third day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty six the Municipal Corporation of the said borough did by the Council of the said borough present a petition to Her Majesty in accordance with section 218 of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and the School Boards Act 1885 petitioning for a scheme amending the said Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 and for a scheme under the Municipal Corporation Acts 1882 and 1885 And whereas the said petition was referred to a Committee of the Lords of Her Majestys Privy Council and such petition has been proceeded on as nearly as may be as if the same were a petition for a Charter extending the Municipal Corporation Acts to a Municipal Borough to be incorporated And whereas this Scheme was before being settled by the Committee of Council referred to the consideration of the Education Department And whereas it is expedient right and just that a scheme should be settled pursuant to the Municipal Corporation Acts 1882 and 1885 containing the provisions hereinafter set forth Now therefore the said Committee of Council have settled a Scheme containing the provisions herein and do hereby order and declare as follows (1) This Scheme may be cited for all purposes as the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1886 (2) This Scheme shall be deemed to have commenced on the date of the commencement of the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 which date is herein mentioned as the commencement of this scheme and shall be in operation as soon as it is confirmed by Order in Council or Parliament as the case may be (3) This Scheme shall be construed as one with the Borough of Kidwelly Scheme 1885 (4) Notwithstanding the creation of the said Municipal Borough the School Board for the said United District shall be and be deemed to have been and continue to be the School Board for the area originally included in the said United District by the name of the St Mary Kidwelly United District School Board in all respects to the same extent and in the same manner as



if at the time of the constitution of the said United District and of the formation of the School Board for the said United District by the Education Department the said borough of Kidwelly had been created a Municipal Borough and the said School Board had been formed and created for a United District of which the constituent districts were the said Municipal Borough the part of the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid and the parish of St Mary Kidwelly Without by the name of the St. Mary Kidwelly United District School Board and as if so far as the portion of the said United District included in the said Municipal Borough is concerned the Local Rate and the Local Authority had been the Borough Fund or Rate and the Council of the said Borough respectively and as it so far, as the portion of the said United District included in the part of the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid is concerned the part of the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid had been according to the provisions of the Elementary Education Act 1870 as amended by any other Act or Acts a parish by itself and everything in connection with the said Board and United School district shall be done had and construed accordingly and not otherwise (5) All liabilities and assets attaching to and vested in the St. Mary Kidwelly United District School Board immediately before the commencement of this scheme shall be and continue attached to and vested in such Board and all charges charged immediately before the commencement of this Scheme under the Acts relating to Public Elementary Education or any of them on the poor rates or other rates or funds of the Constituent Districts of the said United District and the School Fund of the said United District shall be a charge upon the Borough Rate or Fund of the said borough and the Rate in the nature of a Poor Rate of the said part of the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid (as if the same had been according to the provisions of the Elementary Education Act 1870 as amended as aforesaid a parish by itself) and the Poor Rate of the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Without and the School Fund of the said United District respectively and not otherwise (6) Any Bye-laws in force at the date of this scheme in the said United District made under the Acts relating to Public Elementary Education shall be and continue in force (7) Any Act or omission done or made by the Education Department or the said School Board or the Council of the said Borough or any Justice since the date of the said Charter shall be deemed to

have been lawfully done or made if it might have been lawfully done or made by the said Department School Board Council or Justice if no Charter had been granted or the said School Board had been the School Board for the United District of which the Constituent Districts are the said borough the part of the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Within aforesaid and the parish of St. Mary Kidwelly Without.'

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